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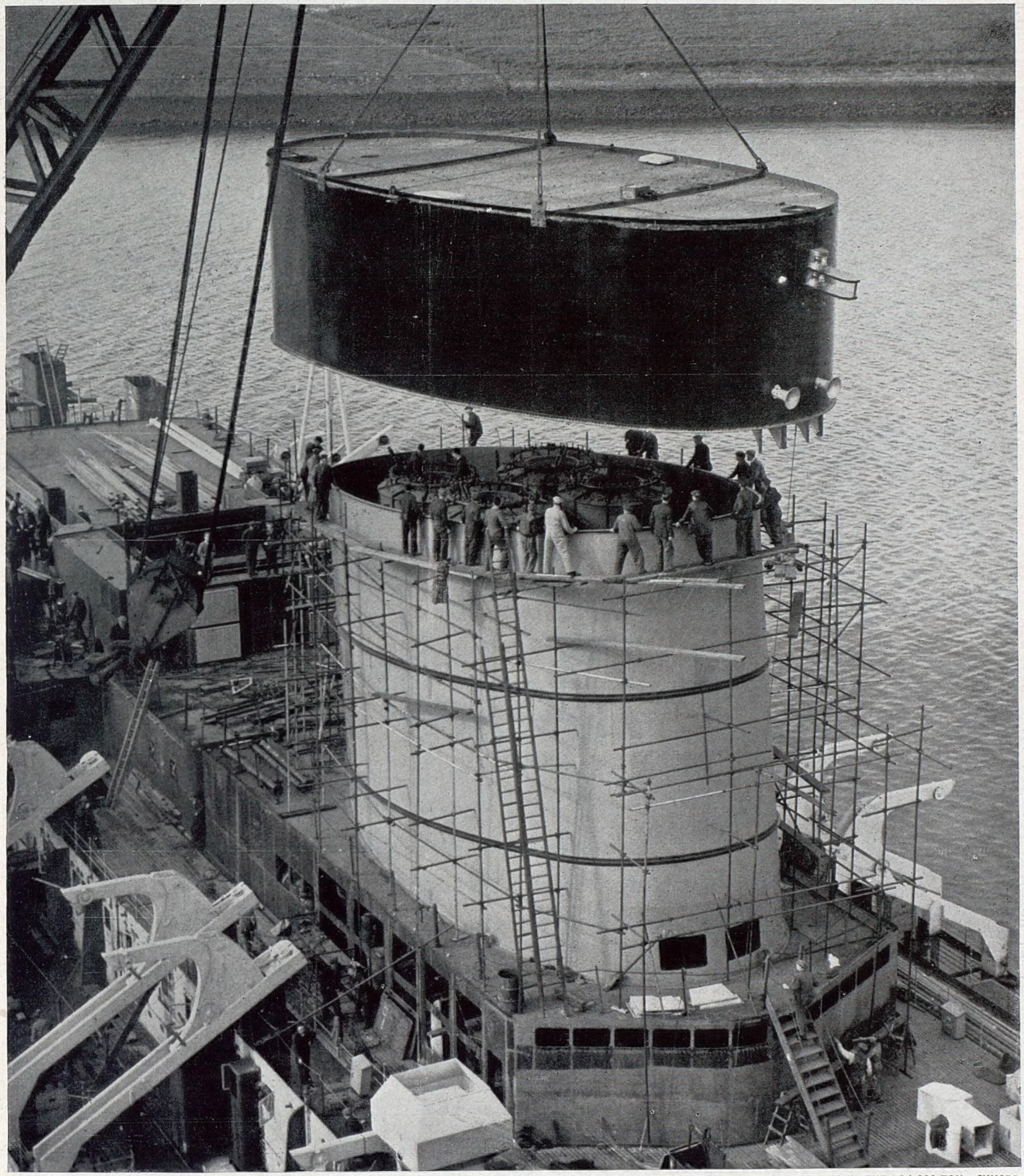
The Empire's Illustrated Weekly



FITTING THE WORLD'S LARGEST FUNNEL—THE TOPMOST SECTION OF THE 125-TON UNIT IS CRANED ON TO THE "CARONIA," THE 34,000-TON CUNARD WHITE STAR LINER NOW NEARING COMPLETION AT CLYDEBANK: The "Caronia," the largest liner now building in the world, will probably make her maiden voyage before the end of this year and will be a great dollar-earner for Britain

Last autumn Princess Elizabeth and the Duke of Edinburgh (then Lieutenant Mountbatten) visited Clydebank for the launching of the S.S. *Caronia*—a sister-ship of the *Mauretania*, which was completed about ten years ago. Since then the fitting-out of the new liner has been proceeding apace, and it is possible that she will be ready for her maiden voyage in October. The funnel is 53 ft. long and 46 ft. high, and will give a distinctive appearance to this ship, which will have a clipper bow, very similar to the Cunarder *Russia* built ninety years ago, and other features which will differentiate her from the normal outlines of the Atlantic passenger ship. The *Caronia* will be used largely for cruising, and as such should be hardly less productive than the two "Queens" in bringing much-needed dollars to Britain

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A LONDON NEWSLETTER

1, NEW OXFORD STREET, W.C.1.

Government by the People.—In his *Unfinished Victory*, published in the first year of the Second World War, Mr. Arthur Bryant went courageously far to justify a great deal of Hitler's political creed as revealed in *Mein Kampf*. Among those opinions of Hitler which Mr. Bryant by implication approved as reasonable was the Führer's view of the frauds of so-called democratic government, with its insistence on government by the will of the people. I confess that a fortnight spent in the wilderness with nothing whatever to read but a cheap daily, local in character, written for semi-illiterates, strengthens my own opinion that even our own form of democracy is singularly incompetent to achieve its glorious slogan, since the bulk of the electorate form their opinions, if they form any opinions, from journals such as I have been compelled to read; and even if a majority of the electorate could be counted as trained in citizenship and competent of sound judgment, they are denied more than two opportunities in five years to signify their general approval of a broad and vague policy; and since those opportunities usually occur during the Insanity Fair of a General Election, even those chances of rare judgment in signifying the people's will are thwarted. For, indeed, how many decisions have been taken by the Government since 1945 not even remotely to be construed as within the broad mandate alleged to have been given it by a majority in 1945? Probably half-a-dozen major decisions on vital issues. And the majority voice of the electors has had no possible chance swiftly to veto any of them.

Two Vital Issues.—It seems to me elementary that, if democracy means more in England than Hitler's dictatorship in Germany between '35 and '45, the people's will should be consulted before further or final decisions are taken on two fearful issues now facing the Government: (1) In the event of stalemate at Moscow, whether to continue the air-lift compromise for supplying the bare needs of the Western Zone of Berlin (which is bound to break down if continued into the winter) or to adopt even more risky but possibly more effective methods to restore a workable land-haul before winter? (2) How far to prosecute Western Union at the expense of Empire economic welfare and unity? Decisions taken now on one or both of these issues may commit the country to policies never contemplated by the electorate, and to positions from which retreat may be impossible. For three years there has been no opposition in Parliament capable of arresting rash decisions by the Government. Its huge majority can resist a clamour for a General Election before 1950 (and indeed nobody wants one), and the power of the Press to impress on a Government the force of public opinion on a particular issue is for various reasons temporarily eclipsed. Except for a conventional and brief show of politeness in listening to Opposition criticism in the House (before guillotining debate), and a few platitudes about the glory of our democracy, Mr. Attlee and his lieutenants are as entrenched and dictatorial as was Hitler and as is Stalin

Moscow Eddies.—Soviet broadcasts are not very clear straws in the wind. Broadly, they may prepare the waiting world for failure, but there is some hedging. There is evident a desire to claim any possible agreement on any point as a triumph of restraint and statesmanship for Stalin and Molotov, in the face of American and British treachery as revealed by their commanders' actions in Berlin, so contrary to the Western Allies' profession of readiness to negotiate. Yet another line taken in these broadcasts depicts the Western Powers as humbly suing for any sort of settlement which will get them out of their present difficulties, even at the price of sacrificing their friends. Yet among these diverse and contradictory undercurrents, it does emerge that the Russians begin to admit that the blockade has not succeeded, and will not succeed (at least, until severe winter comes) in forcing the Allies out of Berlin, and accordingly Stalin has fallen back on his second string, and is bargaining now with currency control which, if conceded as a monopoly, would of course be quite as hopeful, indeed a more effective means to the same end. Meanwhile, the smaller fry, facing the Western Allies at the barriers of Berlin, pursue the ham-handed tactics which are matches lit in a powder-magazine.

Tito's Communism.—Tito, as I read the riddle, is every whit as keen to win Europe to Communism as is Stalin. But he does not share Stalin's opinion of Russian competence to direct the campaign. He is shocked by Stalin's clumsy handling of the Western Allies; his out-of-date methods of nation-by-nation revolution will, in Tito's view, surely and quickly cause the secession of wavering countries to the "enemy" side. Tito believes that culture, not barbarism, alone can paint Europe preponderatingly red, and that Yugoslavia, Italy and Greece, the nations of culture, must guide the movement and direct a much more velvet-gloved campaign. He has his eye on Poland, too, believing that the most ardent Polish Communists have an ineradicable hatred of the Russians (as well they may), and that Poland should be the first target of the cultured Communist triumvirate when seeking new allies and adherents. He has no belief in pursuing negotiations with Rumania, Bulgaria or Czechoslovakia. He regards such contacts as waste of time. These views of Tito's present policy, if approximately true, explain to me more clearly why Stalin has put Tito on the mat. A revolution within a revolution is the last thing the Russians could wish for, for it is at any rate plain that Stalin has made very poor progress of late with his ham-handed methods, and probably the most primitive of his satellites may be feeling disgusted at his handling of the Berlin impasse.

Russia's Air Strength.—An interesting article in the *Yorkshire Evening News* recently, written by Mr. C. G. Grey, an acknowledged authority, suggests that no great anxiety need be felt concerning the might of Russia in the air. It suggested, indeed, that a good deal of camouflage is required even over Berlin to create an impression of numerical strength and of efficiency, rather on the lines of the stage army of seven supers, passing and repassing behind the footlights. Mr. Grey considers that the Russians probably have a fair supply of jet-fighters, copied from German samples found at Penemunde, but the Russians are bad copyists, even with the help of German technicians giving a reluctant second-best. He quotes an expert on European Air Transport as saying that the Russians have been utterly astonished by the performance of the great Sunderland flying-boats engaged in the air-lift. The Russians are not sea-minded, and the sight of a sea-going aircraft that can lift so many tons and land as it does in restricted water-space, is something new to them. On the whole, Mr. Grey's conclusion is that the West has not much to fear from Russia in the air, and that Russians are well aware of their own inferiority.

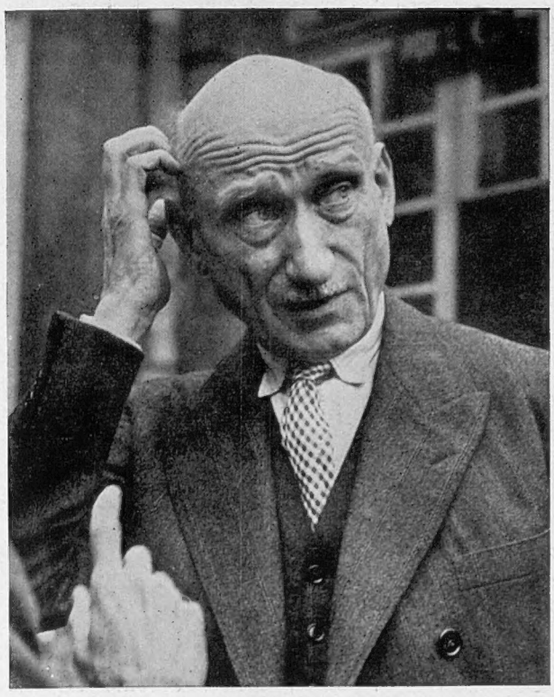
Dr. Johnson Said . . .—British Deans are dignified divines but not above the ordinary human failings, and the Dean of Canterbury is no exception. He was refused entry into the United States, where he proposed to speak on behalf of the American-Soviet Friendship Society, and he did not conceal his annoyance. He said that it is obvious the Americans don't want friendship with Russia. East Europe, on the other hand, has opened its arms wide to love and brotherhood among nations and to Dr. Johnson. And the Dean has flown on wings of love (on the rebound) to Poland and then on to the new, ideal State of Rumania. In short, the Iron Curtain is a phantom or, if it exists, it stretches between England and America; Canterbury and New York. The Dean has only postponed his visit to America. He expects to be received there with open arms two years hence, when Mr. Wallace is at the White House, as indubitably (Dr. Johnson says) he will be three years hence. As the Dean's self-appointed Boswell, I record this note.

JOHNSON'S STATUE IN A DERELICT STATE—THE CELEBRATED FIGURE AT THE EASTERN END OF THE GARDEN OF BLITZED ST. CLEMENT DANES, STRAND, AS IT APPEARS TO-DAY, SOME EIGHT YEARS AFTER THE DESTRUCTION OF THE CHURCH: The sorry state of the statue has caused considerable comment of late, and it is felt by good Johnsonians that something should be done about the matter. The statue was the gift and handiwork of Percy Fitzgerald, F.S.A., and was erected in 1910 by the Rev. S. Pennington, Rector of St. Clement Danes. Dr. Johnson was well known at St. Clement's and had a seat in the north gallery near the pulpit. In 1773 Boswell records breakfasting with Johnson and going on to St. Clement's to church. In 1784 Johnson wrote to Mrs. Thrale, telling of a visit of thanksgiving to the church on the occasion of his recovery from a serious illness

Correspondents' Letters.—It comes each autumn as a surprise to me that my "Newsletter" correspondents never take their holidays at the same time as I do. I have had an unusually large mail to deal with and, lacking even a decent bottle of ink, I have failed to deal with it as I like to do. Among the corrections and confirmations which these letters have brought me have been: (1) Vigorous denials that any blame attached to any of the officers and N.C.O.s concerned with those dog-day exercises which resulted in the deaths of three cadets. (2) Equally vigorous confirmation that at certain London termini the nationalisation of the railways has not resulted in benefits to the public or better manners from some of the employees. Others besides myself have been "held up" by exorbitant demands from the porters, and one or two have found themselves roughly handled or treated with a lack of humanity and civility. On the other hand, I should say that the distribution of sleeping accommodation has been more prompt and equitable than it was last year.

Silly Season Aftermath.—The dangers of humour often strike a journalist. A week or two back I recalled the usual features of the Silly Season in pre-war days and, among other "chestnuts," I listed the Loch Ness Monster's regular appearance and the equally regular August 12 paragraph: "The crack of the rifle was heard early on the moors." This morning's post brought me two bright spots: (1) From Berkhamsted: "May I respectfully point out that grouse are not and never have been shot with a rifle but always with a shot-gun, usually a 12-bore." (2) From an absolutely unimpeachable source, I learn that the other day three dependable witnesses, all saw quite distinctly, at a range of 800 yards, the Loch Ness Monster. It was about 40 ft. long and eel-like. These three witnesses, one a local landlord, another born and bred in that area, and the third a famous game-shot, reported what they saw to the highest authority, and this evidence of what their eyes saw I accept as absolutely reliable. But what did their eyes see? There is no smoke without fire, and the Loch Ness Monster smoke has hung over the Loch for decades. What, then, is the creature—a prehistoric-type survival or a current type of eel swollen to monstrous proportions in the Loch's depths?

THE OLD STAGER



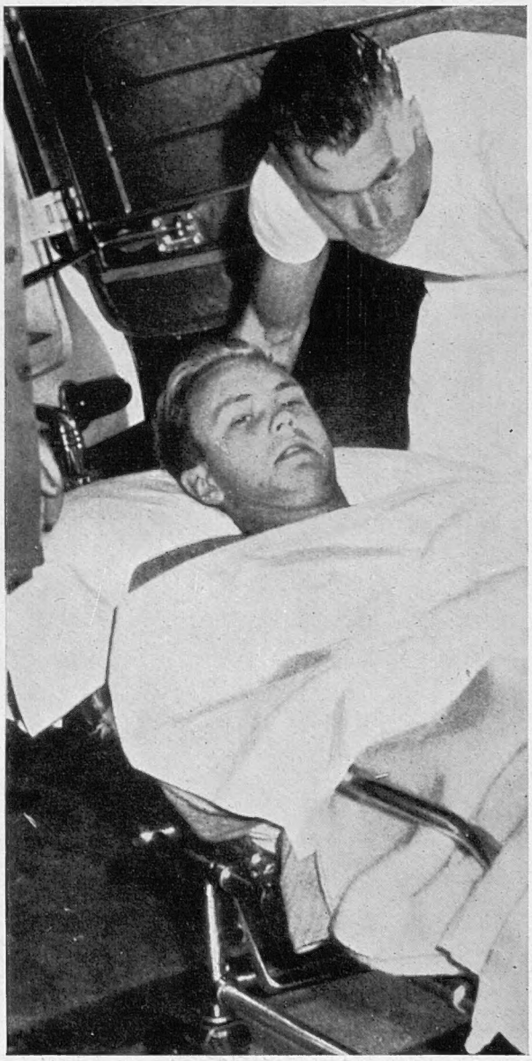
M. SCHUMAN TRIES AGAIN : The leader of the Popular Republicans, and ninth Prime Minister in post-war France, who was asked by President Auriol last Sunday night to attempt to form a Government following the defeat of M. Marie, and the failure of M. Ramadier, the Socialist leader, to win the necessary support. M. Schuman began his consultations last Monday at 9 a.m., and they, of course, depended upon his ability to win a measure of Socialist support for a liaison with the Popular Republicans and the Radicals Meanwhile, the possibility of a general election looms nearer every day with France being asked to face a clear-cut issue between the Communists and the De Gaullist Rally

LORD WOOLTON RETURNS FROM THE RED CROSS CONFERENCE IN STOCKHOLM : Air Commodore Hewat, Lady Woolton, Lord Woolton and Lady Limerick (acting Vice-Chairman of the Executive Committee of the B.R.C.S.) seen on arrival at Northolt Airport after flying back from Sweden, where they were our Conference delegates. This seventeenth International Red Cross Conference has been planning a new convention for the protection of civilians, a convention necessitated by the development of striking power and the vast changes in weapons resulting from the Second World War

PEOPLE IN THE PUBLIC EYE

M. Schuman Sets About Cabinet-Making : Lord Woolton Attends a Vital Conference in Stockholm

DR. ZENKL REACHES SAFETY : The former Deputy Premier of Czechoslovakia and friend of Benes, seen at London Airport on his arrival. He was brought out of Czechoslovakia in a lorry by "partisans," who blindfolded him and his wife so that they could not recognise their rescuers. "The last six months were worse for me and for my wife than my six years in the concentration camp at Buchenwald," declared Dr. Zenkl



A VICTIM OF AMERICA'S INFANTILE PARALYSIS WAVE : Curtis Boettiger, eighteen-year-old grandson of the late President Roosevelt, being transferred from an ambulance on arrival at the General Hospital, Los Angeles, suffering from poliomyelitis. Mr. Boettiger's physician said that his condition was not serious, and the attack might be described as mild. There has also been an outbreak of poliomyelitis in the Southampton district, and there are now five confirmed cases in the local hospital

A PRESENT FOR "OLD KATE" FROM DOWN UNDER : Dick Bentley, Australian-born comedian of the B.B.C. programme "Show Time," handing the well-known Piccadilly flower-seller parcels sent by Australian admirers who heard a recent broadcast in which Old Kate took part. The parcels came addressed to "Old Kate," care of the B.B.C. At first there was some difficulty in finding the flower-seller, as she was away on holiday at Ramsgate

PRESIDENT TRUMAN, AS CHAIRMAN, PRESIDES OVER THE MEMBERS OF THE UNITED STATES NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL AT THE WHITE HOUSE : This was the Council's eighteenth meeting, and was held at a time when the Moscow talks were continuing and in the light of increasing international tension. In London a surprise Cabinet meeting with Service Chiefs present took place a few days later. From left to right in this group are Charles V. Whitney, Acting Secretary of the Air Force ; Kenneth Royall, Army Secretary ; Sidney Souars, Secretary to the National Security Council ; Arthur Hill, Chairman of the National Security Resources Board ; Rear-Admiral Roscoe Hellenkoetter, Director of Central Intelligence ; Major-General Gruenther, Joint Staff Director ; (unidentified) , Defence Secretary James Forrestal, who co-ordinates all three services ; Secretary of State George Marshal ; President Truman ; and John Kenney, Acting Secretary of the Navy

THE DEFENCE MINISTER ATTENDS FOR THE SURPRISE CABINET MEETING : Mr. A. V. Alexander, one of the five Ministers available, arriving for the Downing Street meeting, which was presided over by Mr. Bevin and also attended by the Chiefs of Staff

AMERICA'S JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF IN CONCLAVE : Mr. James V. Forrestal, the Secretary of Defence, presiding over the Committee in the Naval War College at Newport, Rhode Island. Left to right are—Major-General Gruenther, U.S.A., Staff Director, Joint Staff ; General Hoyt S. Vandenberg, U.S.A.F., Chief of Staff, U.S. Air Forces ; Admiral Denfeld, U.S.N., Chief of Naval Operations ; General Omar Bradley, Chief of Staff, U.S. Army ; Secretary Forrestal ; Lieut.-General Wedemeyer, U.S.A., Director of Plans and Operations, U.S. Army ; Vice-Admiral Arthur Radford, U.S.N., Vice-Chief of Naval Operations ; and Lieut.-General Norstad, U.S.A.F., Deputy Chief of Operations, U.S. Air Forces

ADMIRAL LORD FRASER AT 10, DOWNING STREET : In view of his appointment as First Sea Lord, which he takes over in succession to Sir John Cunningham, Lord Fraser attended the emergency Cabinet Meeting in company with his chief

MINISTERS AND SERVICE CHIEFS MEET

Vital Meetings in London and Washington

THE FOREIGN SECRETARY DEPUTISES FOR THE PRIME MINISTER : Mr. Ernest Bevin leaving Whitehall after the surprise Cabinet meeting. It was the first Cabinet meeting, and the third meeting of Ministers, since Parliament adjourned for the summer recess. The presence of the Defence Minister and Service Chiefs was interpreted in some quarters as denoting that the situation in Malaya was one of the main topics under discussion

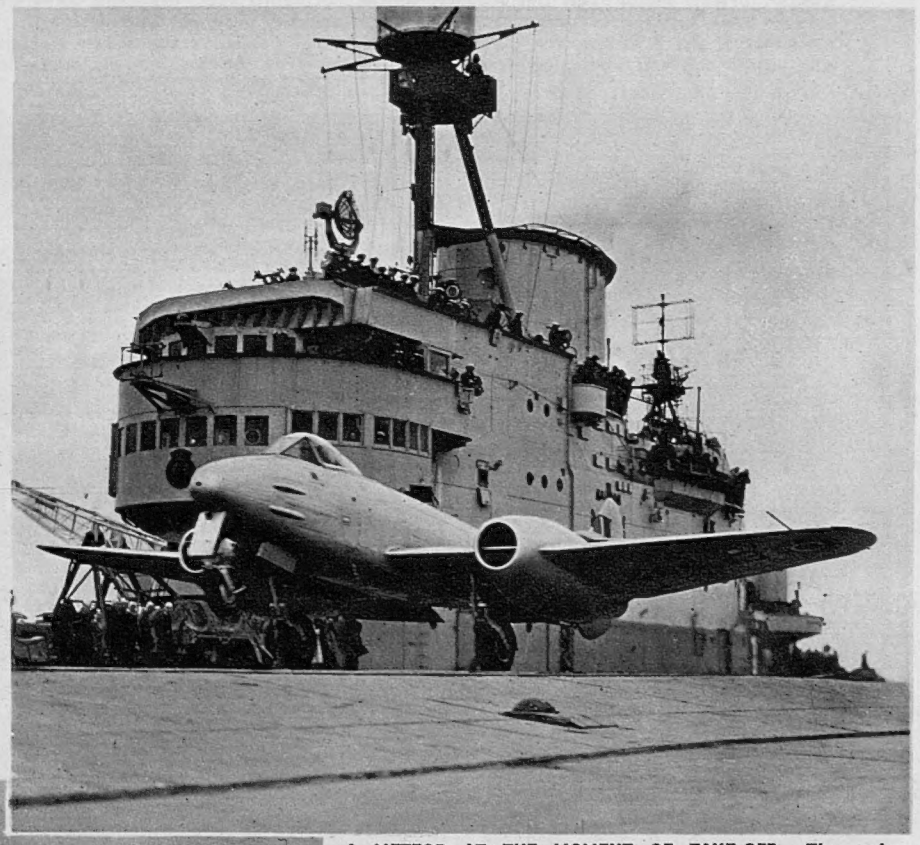
THE C.I.G.S. WALKS AWAY FROM NO. 10 : Field-Marshal Lord Montgomery of Alamein, Chief of the Imperial General Staff

THE NAVY AND THE JET FIGHTER

The Twin-Jet Meteor on Deck Trials, and the 600-m.p.h. Hawker

DECK-LANDING AND TAKE-OFF TRIALS OF THE GLOSTER METEOR : The machine taking off from the deck of H.M.S. *Implacable* after achieving the distinction of being the first twin jet-propelled aircraft ever to land on a carrier of the Royal Navy. It is within recent memory that the charge was levelled against naval aviation that all its aircraft were slow, having been built to the requirements of deck landing, but now the position is reversed, as witness the adaptation of the Meteor and the even faster N.7 46 to naval use

POSSIBLY THE FINEST NAVAL FIGHTER YET PRODUCED IN ANY COUNTRY : An action study of the Hawker N.7 46 jet-propelled fighter, successor to the piston-engined Hurricane, Typhoon and Tempest of wartime fame, being demonstrated at Langley, Buckinghamshire. It is faster than any jet aircraft yet in service, and its speed is admitted officially to be well over 600 m.p.h. In the hands of Squadron Leader T. S. Wade, Hawker Aircraft's chief test pilot, the fighter not only displayed in trials great speed and a high rate of climb, but exceptional manœuvrability and handling qualities. The N.7 46, as yet unnamed, has been designed by Mr. S. Camm and his team primarily as a carrier-borne aircraft, but it is understood that the R.A.F. is interested in another version of it. Powered by a Rolls-Royce Nene turbo-jet, the fighter has its air intakes in the leading edges of the wing roots. This arrangement gives more space for fuel tanks



A METEOR AT THE MOMENT OF TAKE-OFF : The twin-engined jet leaving the deck of H.M.S. "Implacable," the 23,000-ton carrier. She has a length of 766 ft., but the Meteor did not require anything like this amount of runway to reach the air

On left—**THE NEW HAWKER JET LEAVES LANGLEY AIR-FIELD : This picture shows the particularly neat and sleek appearance of the N.7 46, shaped like an elongated bullet, the only excrescence being the jettisonable cockpit hood. It will be seen by the public for the first time at the annual flying display and exhibition of the Society of British Aircraft Constructors, which is to be held at Farnborough, Hants, this month**

BRITAIN SEEKS TO ENSURE NO TRESPASSERS : With a German policeman to guard him a painter marks the words "British Sector" on the roadway in the Potsdamerplatz, near the point where the American, British and Russian Sectors meet. To guard against misunderstandings with the Russians, the perimeter of the British sector has now been fully sign-posted at the orders of Major-General Herbert, who visited the spot and, after consulting maps to verify the position, outlined what was to be done

THE BERLIN BORDER FORAYS

What Goes On Round the Potsdamerplatz, where the British, American, and Russian Sectors Meet

A SOVIET-AMERICAN PARLEY IN THE STRESEMANSTRASSE : Lieut.-Colonel E. R. Kelly, American Deputy Provost-Marshal (half-obscured by his Corporal interpreter), listens to a Russian interpreter explaining the Red Army's point of view over a recent "border" incident at a point where the U.S. and Soviet sectors come face-to-face near the Potsdamerplatz

The Berlin situation, with its complete lack of human dignity, and offering, as it does, to the defeated German nation the spectacle of victorious allies falling out, reached new stages of embarrassment last week, and there was an element of tragedy when Germans were killed in the first shooting in Berlin since the close of the war. To minimise the risk of further incidents, the British and Americans have sought to mark their sector limits with the utmost clarity, and several of the pictures on these pages show that work in progress. The whole situation is much complicated by the fact that at the Potsdamerplatz, where the British, American and Russian sectors meet, there is a centre of considerable black-market activity, and, naturally enough, it is the chosen seat of the Eastern and Western money-changers. Many of the incidents have arisen, naturally enough, out of the pursuit of these black marketeers

BERLINERS, RENOWNED FOR THEIR SPECIALISED SENSE OF HUMOUR, FOUND THIS FUNNY : They are watching two men with a tape and a pot of paint marking a diagonal line across the Potsdamerplatz, at the point where the British and Russian sectors meet. At the same time, a newly-painted notice-board proclaims in English, German and Russian that this is the British sector. Major-General Herbert, who commands the British forces, is determined on no more misunderstandings

A CORDON ACROSS THE STRESEMANSTRASSE: German police, backed by military police of the United States Army, on duty at the boundary between the American and Soviet sectors of Berlin. They appeared after the Russians had moved 45 soldiers and 120 German police to the boundary, and at one time there were indications that an ugly situation might develop with some rapidity

A TOUR OF INSPECTION: Colonel Frank L. Howley, American Commandant in Berlin, with his deputy (in plain clothes), Colonel William Babcock, at the limit of the American sector near the Potsdamerplatz, scene of the recent kidnappings and other incidents. In the front seat is Mr. Raymond Ashworth, Chief of the American Public Safety Branch in Berlin. Behind the car a notice-board proclaims that this is the limit of the United States sector

WHERE DO WE GO FROM HERE? Colonel Falk, the United States Provost Marshal, with officers of the 759th Military Police Battalion, one of whom is holding a map of the United States and Russian sectors. Major Beck, the battalion commander, is standing on the right. When this picture was taken the P.M. was checking up on the exact frontier demarcation

YOUTH AT THE RAILS: These young Russian soldiers look a trifle bored as they stand guard at the approach to their sector and not far from the spot where their own patrols recently carried out the kidnapping of Mr. Headen, the forty-five-year-old U.S. Deputy Director of Information

IN WHICH CAMP THE TENTS OF ISRAEL?

In the Midst of the Push and Pull of Soviet-American Relations

By FERDINAND TUOHY

AN incident in a Tel Aviv theatre places the spotlight on a condition of affairs which might colour the future of the Middle East long after the Zionist-Arab conflict has been decided.

There was a performance of *Thaïs*, to which both the Russian and the U.S. diplomatic missions were invited. The usual anthem-playing was gone into, and, because Moscow had formally recognised the Israeli Government, the Russian National Anthem was given precedence. Then would follow the American (in view of *de facto* recognition only), and finally the Hatikva of Israel.

However, things did not work out like that. Because the Soviet envoy failed to make a personal appearance, the Russian Anthem was dropped. The rest of the Russian mission sat out their indignation until the first interval, then left in a body, saying they had been insulted.

Now, if this happened anywhere else it would be passed over as quite normal Russian behaviour. But in the new State of Israel it has a very special significance. Into the sharpest relief is brought the whole matter of Israel's balancing act between the two giants who glare defiance at one another. Most of us have come down in one camp or the other; but not Israel—not yet finally, at any rate.

Was there ever a situation before, by which a State reared itself from nothing on the strength of aid drawn from two sources as violently opposed one to the other, as the United States and Soviet Russia? Possibly only a race with the deep and universal shoots possessed by the Jews could have done it.

By visible showing, the Americans have outdone the Russians in their backing of the Zionist cause. Whatever anti-Semitic feeling is prevalent in the United States, American sympathy for the Jews attained a passionate note with the *coup d'état* of May. President Truman's previous demands that 100,000 Jews be admitted to Palestine had left little doubt as to what to expect, but the manner in which old friendships were trampled upon came as a shock.

Too few of the shocked ones realised that an inordinate amount of American Press, radio, film and other publicity is in the hands of Jews, and that this accounted for the severity of the blast.

Material aid to the Jews kept pace with the official American attitudes at Washington and Lake Success. Thus, it wasn't long before Dr. Schwartz, European Director of the Joint Distribution Committee of World Zionism, was hard at work moving displaced persons to ports in France, Italy and Yugoslavia, and then providing ships for the Mediterranean crossing to Palestine. This Committee is 90 per cent. American-financed, and it claims to have landed 30,000 Jews in Palestine since the State of Israel was proclaimed on May 14.

Dr. Schwartz says first priority is being given to 250,000 Jewish D.P.s in Italy and in the U.S. Zones of Germany and Austria. He hopes to maintain a monthly inflow of 10,000 to Palestine over a matter of two years. Just now, these Jews are reaching journey's end under the noses of U.N. observers (many of whom are American) and in all manner of craft—some bearing a mere 100, others up to 2,000.

It is entirely true to say that the compact and striking Jewish Army of 70,000 in Palestine could never have come about without American backing. Nearly all the human material emanated from Eastern and Central Soviet-controlled Europe, but would have remained stuck fast *en route* but for American dollars, organisation and keenness.

Only less than its zeal in providing fighting blood for Zion has been America's role as arms purveyor—despite an arms embargo promulgated in Washington.

The bulk of American payments for arms bought for Israel in Italy and Belgium are being made through Tangier's free money market, and it is thought that some of the arms may pass that way also, as ships flying the notorious Panama flag are frequently seen heading east after a brief stay in port.

Then there are the war-planes, including Flying Fortresses, that have been flown to Palestine under American auspices, clandestine or not. "Forts" can emerge as devastating weapons against Arab and Egyptian towns and villages, not to say troop concentrations in the desert.

Rounding out this material help has been a constant flow of relief stores and goods—clothing, food, camp and hospital requisites, chiefly. And the question of a £25,000,000 loan to Israel is under consideration by the Export-Import Bank, an American institution.

Here we come up with the political and diplomatic side. Whatever qualms career men in the State Department and officers of the Services may have, official American backing of the Palestine Jews has been uncompromising and of utmost consequence to the backed from the moment Mr. Truman whisked across his recognition. True, it wasn't full recognition, and this still lacks, but only because certain U.N. conditions have to be complied with. The Americans have made it quite clear that they propose to back Israel for U.N. membership, which, if attained, will automatically imply full recognition of the newcomer.

THE RUSSIAN ENVOY TO ISRAEL: Mr. Pavel Ivanovitch Yershev, who took up his post in Tel Aviv after the Soviet recognition accorded to the new State

At Lake Success, in committees and before the Security Council, it has been the same pro-Jewish song: the most that American politicians and delegates have allowed themselves has been a gentle admonition of the Israeli Government when departures from the truce have been too glaring. Now the Americans have a genial representative on the spot to deliver these mild protests—Dr. McDonald—and that brings us to where we started from: the playing of the American National Anthem as he entered the Habima Theatre.

Why did the Russians walk out that night? I'll tell you: because of the local adulation and hero-worship to which they had grown accustomed. They thought President Ben-Gurion's new State intended swinging into the American orbit, and that dropping the Russian Anthem was the sign.

The average Israeli citizen feels closer to the United States spiritually than to Russia, where Zionism has been outlawed for thirty years. Moreover, feeling in Soviet-controlled lands is so little friendly to the Jews that it provides the main motive-power sending the Eastern Jews to Palestine. Nor have the Russians supplied as much ready help to the Jews as have American agencies; while the Russians have been far behind in the matter of vociferous goodwill towards Zion.

Nevertheless, Russian prestige is soaring among all political factions of the Jewish State, and I believe I can give the reasons, three in number.

There was Stalin's sudden espousal of Zion about a year ago. It fell from the blue at a bitter moment, and though the crudest opportunism, what it meant to these scrambling bunches of guerillas . . . *Stalin's blessing!* It was followed up by instant and full Soviet recognition of Israel on May 15. Since when, who but the Soviet Union has championed Israel's case in the United Nations on every possible occasion?

Next, the Palestine Jews associate their crucial victory directly with arms rushed in by the U.S.S.R. A new nation fighting for its existence remembers that kind of thing above greater but more drawn-out aid. From the Soviet satellite nation of Czechoslovakia, Jews made some of their most important bulk purchases of arms, and these reached Israel during a highly critical juncture. They played a big part in blunting the original forward march of the five Arab contingents.

It is said that the Czech rifle stands out as the basic and proudest weapon of the Israeli Army. It was hastened to Palestine at Stalin's nod. All Israel knows that.

We come to the third, last, and main reason for Russia's popularity: the political pasts of the leaders.

These men and women are preponderantly of Russo-Polish descent; whether reared in Ghettos, or not, they drank in Marx along with other lights of a Messianic Socialism; and the result is that the same totalitarian symptoms as prevail in Russia are taking root in Zion. As listed by an earnest Jewish enquirer: "Intolerance of any opposition, self-righteousness, a dictatorial tendency."

This same authority goes on to say that to oppose Mapai and Histadruth (comparable to Labour and the Trade Unions) often means risk of economic ruin.

The political set-up in Israel reeks of "fellow-travellers." As usual, the Communists are pointed out as being a quite infinitesimal group which polled less than 4,000 votes at the last elections. Then comes what is called the "left wing of Labour," otherwise the United Workers Party, or, again, Mapam.

Mapam scored 24 per cent. of the votes and has lately adopted as good as the straight Communist line. Mapam is represented in the Cabinet and exerts a powerful army influence through the Palmach striking force. Mapam also has the vociferously pro-Soviet Stern Gang as bedfellow,

In the centre is the Labour Party proper, or Mapai, which polled 35 per cent. Mapai is the party which has developed totalitarianism, and it has such vote-catchers as Ben-Gurion, Moshe Shertok and Mrs. Goldie Meyerson, Israeli Ambassador to Russia. None of these, or their organs in the Press, utter a derogatory word about Russia; on the contrary, editorials and speeches praise the Soviet Union.

Would-be fervents express the belief that "ugly and familiar manifestations" will correct themselves with time, yet the leeway to be made up is shown by the further finding that "paradoxically the strongest Rightest group—the Revisionist Party and its militant ally, Irgun Zvai Leumi—have kind words for Russia."

The Israeli are grim realists: 80 per cent. of Israel's foreign donations are from the U.S., and this will have to go on if the future migration of millions of Jews to the national homeland is to be realised. The Mapai Government would certainly choose to continue the present balancing act of neutrality towards both the U.S. and the U.S.S.R.

The difficulty lies in the post-war immigration texture. Ranging from zealots to sympathisers, this is predominantly Communist by the settlers' origin and inclination.

The polls in October will carry us a stage nearer the answer to the question: In which camp are the tents of Israel?

IRGUN—AGGRESSIVE IN WAR AND AGGRESSIVE IN PEACE: Orthodox Jews stand by, a trifle doubtfully, before deciding to sign a petition of the Irgun Zvai Leumi urging an entirely Jewish Jerusalem. This idea is in open conflict with the declared views of the Provisional Government of Israel. Irgun claim more than 25,000 signatures for their petition out of approximately 100,000 Jews in the city

HE LEADS THE STERN GROUP IN JERUSALEM: This man, who, for security reasons, goes under the name of "Gad," commands the Jewish extremists. During the latter years of the Mandate he was hunted by the British and was finally captured and sent to Kenya. This picture was taken at a recent Stern Group meeting in Jerusalem, at which he called upon members to win recruits for the plan to make Jerusalem Israel's capital

DAVID BEN-GURION, THE APOSTLE OF MODERN ZIONISM, AND THE CHOSEN LEADER OF THE NEW STATE OF ISRAEL : The sixty-three-year-old Premier is seen (left) in the Cabinet Room of the Provisional Government at Tel Aviv

THE JEWISH STATES COUNCIL MEETS IN TEL AVIV : Some of the members gathered for one of their daily deliberations. A talent for politics has never been a persistently Jewish trait, but the way in which Mr. Ben-Gurion has brought all Jewish parties together in Israel bodes well for the future

THE AFTERMATH OF WEEKS OF FIGHTING IN THE STREETS OF HAIFA : Damage in the former Arab city, which comes within the boundaries of the new State of Israel, and from which many thousands of Arab families have fled. Those Arabs who have remained in Israel are being treated with very marked consideration by the Provisional Government of the Jewish people

ISRAEL IN BEING

Life in the New State now Fighting for its Existence in the Midst of the Arab Near-Eastern World

Mr. Gladstone probably made his greatest political blunder in the '60's when he assumed, too soon as it transpired, that the Confederate States of America had achieved independence. It may yet be that the new State of Israel will not survive its infancy, hedged in as it is by the hostile Arab world, but at all events it is making a brave show, and the conduct of affairs from Tel Aviv, where Mr. Ben-Gurion reigns over the Provisional Government, betokens energy and efficiency. One of the Provisional Government's first acts has been the establishment of a new Israelite currency. This new pound is not directed in any way against sterling, and the Government of Israel, we are told, hopes in due course to re-establish normal friendly relations with the British financial authorities. Another important task for the new Government has been the clearing up of damaged cities such as Haifa and Jaffa, and preparing whole areas for reoccupancy following the headlong flight of large numbers of Arab families

THE FIRST ISSUE OF ISRAELITE CURRENCY : Crowds at the Anglo-Palestine Bank, Jerusalem, waiting to exchange old notes for new notes at the opening of business. The new Israel pound, displacing the Palestine pound, is equal to the pound sterling in value. The notes are issued from the Anglo-Palestine Bank, the bankers to the Provisional Government. The Israelite Finance Minister has declared that the bank's new issue department will keep gold, foreign exchange balances, and Palestine Currency Board notes totalling at least 50 per cent. of the total note circulation

BUNDLING AWAY THE OLD PALESTINE CURRENCY : A teller at the Anglo-Palestine Bank with some of the notes handed in for exchange. The Palestine pound will remain legal tender in Israel until September 15, when it will become a foreign currency, subject to the usual regulations. The new Israel note bears the inscription "Anglo-Palestine Bank Limited will pay to bearer one Palestine pound"

SCOTLAND AT FESTIVAL TIME

The Arbroath Pageant: Edinburgh's International Gathering: The Ballater Games

AN HISTORICAL PAGEANT BASED ON THE SIGNING OF SCOTLAND'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE: The Barons about to sign the declaration in the ruins of Arbroath Abbey. It took the form of a letter to the Pope asserting Scottish independence and reciting in eloquent terms the services which "their lord and sovereign" Robert Bruce had rendered to Scotland. The original signing took place at Arbroath in 1320, and this year it was the main theme of the pageant. The manifesto marks Scotland, in the view of many historians, as the oldest corporate nation in Europe, this being the first assertion of nationality in the entire history of the West. It has been described as a strictly democratic pronouncement by all classes acting in concert. Arbroath Abbey, dismantled and afterwards allowed to go to ruin at the Reformation, was founded by William the Lion in 1178 for Tironesian Benedictines from Kelso, and, when consecrated in 1197, was dedicated to St. Thomas à Becket, whom the Scottish King had met when visiting the English Court. In style the Abbey was mainly Early English, the western gable, however, being Norman

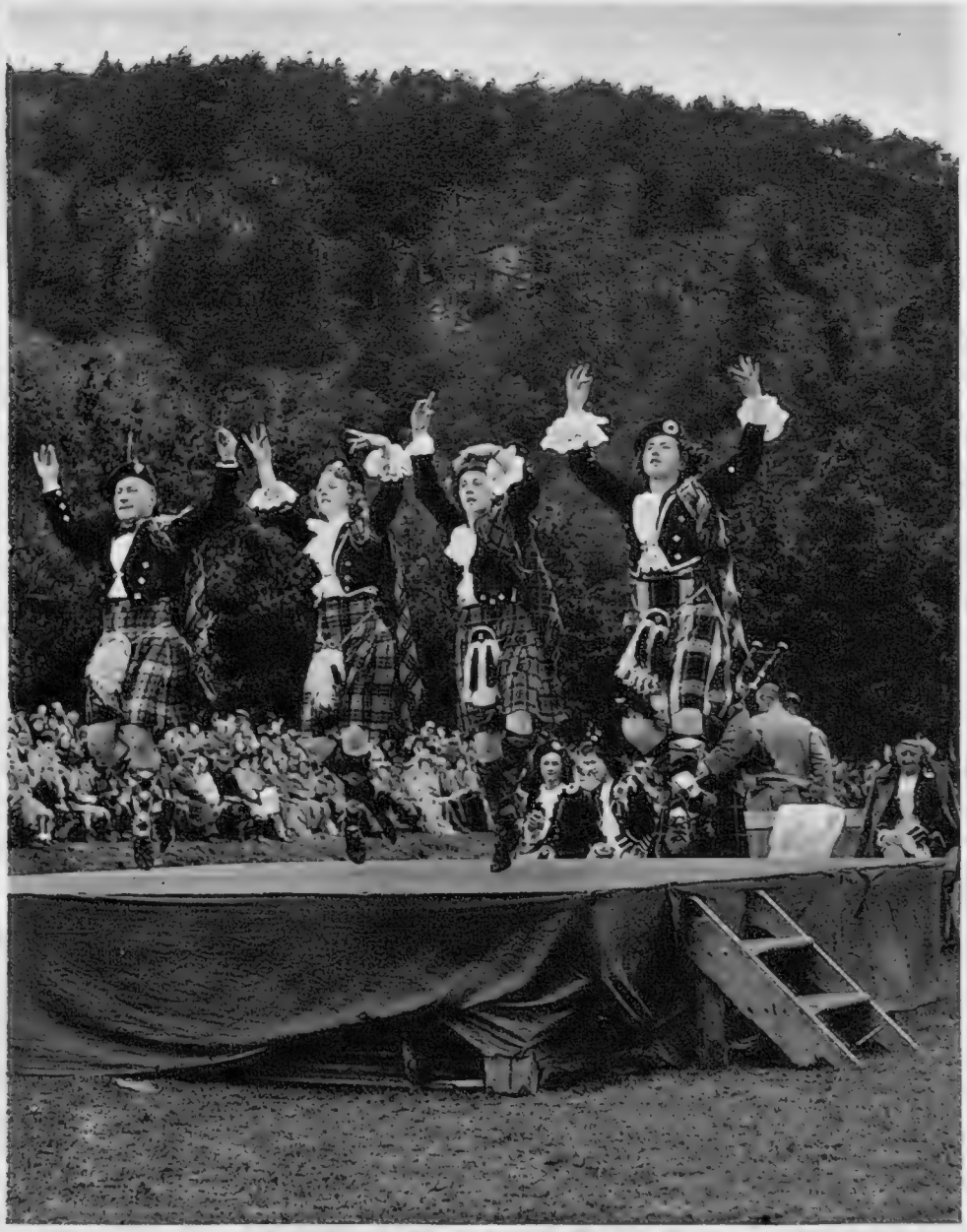
As late summer turns to autumn, Scotland inevitably becomes a centre of interest, and more so than ever now that the International Festival of Music and Drama has become an established feature of Edinburgh life. This year's Festival, the second, has begun auspiciously enough with John Gielgud's fine production of *Medea* as one of the star attractions. Elsewhere, the Highland Games, each in their own district, have provided focal points of interest, and although the attendance at the Ballater Gathering was rather below normal, it still remains the great event of the year for Deeside and Donside. Another important annual event in Scotland is the Arbroath Pageant, which this year took as its theme Scotland's Declaration of Independence

EDINBURGH, FESTIVAL CITY OF THE NORTH—A PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE SCOTTISH CAPITAL FROM THE HEIGHTS OF CALTON HILL: This sweeping view shows the Castle away on the left, and running down the centre of the picture is the celebrated stretch of Princes Street, flanked by the pinnacle of the Scott monument. This month Edinburgh is again host to the world with her second International Festival of Music and Drama, and visitors from overseas have been in the forefront

THE ANNUAL GAMES AT BALLATER—A MEAGRE ATTENDANCE AT THE CELEBRATED GATHERING AT MONALTRIE PARK, IN THE HEART OF DEESIDE : The season of the Games is now in full swing throughout the Highlands, but many gatherings have been marred by bad weather, and attendances have tended to be below normal. Captain A. A. Compton, of Invercauld, was this year's Chieftain of the Games, and at the Ballater County Ball, which preceded the opening of the Games, he received officers of His Majesty's Guard of Honour and many well-known personalities on Deeside and Donside. Ballater lies only a few miles from Balmoral

A DEESIDE SOCIAL OCCASION—THE BALLATER COUNTY BALL : Pipers accompanying a reel in the Victoria Hall, Ballater. The ball preceded the opening of the Highland Gathering in Monaltrie Park. Among the hosts who brought parties to the ball were Lord Glentanar and his daughter, the Hon. Jean Coats

IN THE WAKE OF THE FLOODS IN SOUTH-EAST SCOTLAND : Men of the Royal Engineers engaged in a survey at Whittinghame Sawmill Bridge, near Garvald, East Lothian, which was destroyed during the recent floods. Lieutenant O'Brien, of Scottish Command, Edinburgh, is in the foreground, siting for a Bailey bridge which will temporarily fill this yawning gap



COMPETITORS IN THE HIGHLAND FLING, AN OPEN EVENT AT THE BALLATER GAMES : Four entrants in action on the raised platform, with the rocky, wooded heights in the background forming a picturesque backdrop. In the middle distance is the stand for patrons of the Games

MEDITERRANEAN HALF-WAY HOUSE—A CROWDED SCENE AT FISHMARKET WHARF, GRAND HARBOUR, MALTA, WHERE OF RECENT WEEKS THERE HAS BEEN CONSIDERABLE ACTIVITY : In the immediate foreground on the right is the Malta-owned yacht "Laurana," believed at one time to have been one of Mussolini's private yachts. Next in line is the luxury cruising-steamer "Transylvania" (6,672 tons), flying the flag of the Rumanian State Maritime Service and calling at Malta to pick up passengers. The largest vessel is the Anchor Line's "Empire Halladale," a ship of 14,000 tons, which at the time was *en route* to Port Said with members of the fighting services. The next three vessels, all partially obscured, are the "Terpsichore," of Panama, the "Empire Peacemaker" and the "Empire Lifeguard." The two last-named are engaged on the regular passenger service between Malta, Tripoli, Benghazi and Tobruk. There is also considerable naval activity in Grand Harbour at the present moment, the British Mediterranean Fleet having lately returned from its Summer Cruise in the Eastern Mediterranean. Units of the United States Task Force have also been making calls at the island

THE UNITED STATES NAVY TRIES OUT ITS NEW FLOATING DRY DOCK : A Mariner aircraft being guided into the dock during a recent series of trials with this mobile, transportable equipment. This type of dry dock, into which aircraft are guided with the aid of powerful jets of water shooting from nozzles alongside the dock wall can be carried in the well of an L.S.D. (Landing Ship Dock), and it would be of the utmost value in effecting hull repairs during operations in a fighting zone. On the left an officer is seen giving visual instructions to the pilot as he heads for the entrance to the dock, while on the right a radio telephonist keeps in vocal touch

SURVEYING THE WORLD

A Record of the Foreign News in Pictures

IN VENICE FOR THE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL : Sarah Churchill, daughter of Mr. Winston Churchill and the former wife of Mr. Vic Oliver, setting out on a gondola trip accompanied by Captain Moore. Many well-known personalities have been attending the festival which has attracted entries from no fewer than sixteen countries. The festival opened with the screening of the British ballet film, *The Red Shoes*, which received a considerable ovation

TWO MORE WHO SOUGHT RELAXATION ON THE GRAND CANAL : Lady Diana Cooper and Sir Duff Cooper, the latter either sun shy or camera shy, seen during their August visit to Venice for the International Film Festival

THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND HIS LADY AT THE OPENING OF THE SOUTH AFRICAN PARLIAMENT : Mr. G. Brand Van Zyl and Mrs. Van Zyl at the entrance to the Houses of Parliament, Cape Town, after the opening of the new session, the first with Dr. Malan as Prime Minister. Dr. Malan, from the outset of this new session, brought into the forefront his policy of Apartheid (racial segregation and discrimination). He started by introducing a Bill repealing the provisions in the Indian legislation giving South African Indians a measure of indirect representation in Parliament

PUERTO RICO ATTAINS TO NATIONHOOD: Don Luis Munex Marin, now President of the Puerto Rican Senate, raising his hands for silence as he addressed a recent meeting of the Popular Democratic Party at their convention at San Juan. The convention nominated Don Luis for the Governorship of the territory in the November elections, which will give Puerto Rico a greater degree of self-determination, after being for four centuries a Spanish colony, ruled by colonial governors from across the Atlantic, and for half a century an American territory under military and civilian governors appointed from Washington. These changes follow on the signature of Public Law 362, signed by President Truman in August 1947. This amends the Jones Act to provide that the Governor shall be elected by the voters of Puerto Rico every four years, beginning in November 1948, and that the Governor shall appoint the heads of all departments of the Insular Government. It is generally regarded in Puerto Rico that Don Luis has an outstanding chance of being elected to the first Governorship

THE INAUGURATION OF THE KOREAN REPUBLIC: General Douglas MacArthur, Allied Supreme Commander in Japan, and President Syngum Rhee at the flag-raising ceremony in Seoul to mark the transition of power in American-occupied Southern Korea. President Rhee introduced General MacArthur as "the Liberator," and in his reply the General said that the barrier between north and south Korea was one of the great tragedies of modern history. "It must and will be torn down," he declared. The new South Korea Government was formed after the general elections in May. Russian-occupied Northern Korea has its own Government. There was an atmosphere of tension in Seoul during MacArthur's visit, and throughout the south 50,000 police were on the alert

THE DEBUTANTE WHO WILL TAKE VOWS: Constance Murray, who has wanted to be a nun since she was fourteen years of age, is now nineteen and on September 15 will, according to present arrangements, begin her novitiate in the Convent of the Holy Child, Sharon Hill, Pennsylvania. Her mother, Mrs Murray, of South Hampton, Long Island, is reported to have asked Constance to spend a year making her debut and in travelling in Europe before making her final decision

"AXIS SALLY" FOR TRIAL: Mildred Gillars, the American woman broadcaster for the Germans during the war (who tried to persuade American troops to desert), seen as she left Frankfurt for America. In the United States, Miss Gillars will face charges of treason. This "girl with a golden voice" was arrested in Berlin by counter-intelligence officers. From the end of the war to March 1946 she escaped detection

ONE OF THE "TOKYO ROSES" ALSO FACES CHARGES OF TREASON: Mrs. Iva Toguri d'Aquino, the only woman broadcaster for the Japanese who is an American citizen, leaving Sugamo Prison, Tokyo, at the start of her journey to the United States where, like "Axis Sally" and for the same reasons, she faces charges of treason. Her case is being presented to a San Francisco Grand Jury immediately on her arrival. It is understood that the U.S. Government now has witnesses (who saw her broadcast) and several United States soldiers who are prepared to testify that they heard her voice when on Pacific outposts

HAPPY LANDING: The iron nerve of an American airlines pilot was credited with saving the lives of thirty-five passengers when he was forced to crash-land this giant Convair passenger plane after the nose wheel of the tricycle landing gear jammed on the landing approach. The pilot circled Chicago for more than an hour to diminish his petrol supply

HURTLING TO DESTRUCTION: Bucking like a bronco, with one rear tyre flying off, the other smashed along the axle, the racing car driven by Mack Hellings, of Burbank, California, careers madly on one wheel before crashing in a pile of twisted metal. Hellings was seriously hurt in this smash, which occurred when he struck another car on the first lap of a 100-miles race at Illinois State Fairgrounds Race Track

A NEW CASSINO EMERGES FROM THE RUBBLE

Scenes on the Battlefield Four-and-a-Half Years After the Wave of Destruction

To-day, four-and-a-half years after its capture by Allied troops of the Eighth Army, the town of Cassino, scene of the bitterest fighting of the Italian campaign, has begun to emerge again from the heap of rubble to which it was reduced. A few handsome buildings now stand astride Highway Six, the strategic route to Rome, 60 miles to the north. Due to transport and supply difficulties, rebuilding is necessarily slow, and it will be years yet before Cassino really recovers from the appalling wreckage of war. Once it was one of the prettiest towns in Italy. The restoration of the Monastery will probably be met out of public funds, as it is a national monument. It was founded by St. Benedict in 529 on the site of a Temple of Apollo. Among the new buildings in Cassino are several handsome blocks of workers' flats built by the Italian Ministry of Public Works. They each accommodate about twenty-two families who lived in Cassino before the invasion of Italy and fled as the tide of battle rolled north.

OLD AND NEW IN CONTRAST IN POST-WAR CASSINO: Looking across the bomb-shattered walls of the Cassino Monastery to a group of handsome buildings nearing completion

HANDSOME NEW BUILDINGS FLANK THE MAIN HIGHWAY INTO MONTE CASSINO: Looking from the Monastery heights on to the town, which on March 15, 1944, took the weight of 25,000 tons of bombs. The Monastery, pivot of the much-vaunted Gustav Line, did not fall at once as expected, and more weeks of savage fighting followed before the Polish troops of the Eighth Army fought their way to the summit. To-day there is considerable building activity in and around Cassino, but an enormous amount still remains to be done

IN THE COURTYARD OF CASSINO MONASTERY: The shattered Benedictine Abbey as it appears to-day four years after the capitulation. Only a little rebuilding of the Abbey has so far been done. The decision to bomb the Abbey was taken when it was firmly established that the Germans were using the place as a command post for training artillery

OUST THE BANKRUPT COUNCIL! WE WANT A PEACE TREATY! These were among the slogans borne by Communist demonstrators when, with Russian connivance, they staged a near-riot outside Berlin's City Assembly, in the Soviet sector. *Inset on left*—**A close-up of a section of the mob which sought to impose its rule upon the city**

ATTEMPTED MOB RULE IN BERLIN

The Communists of the Russian Sector Storm the City Hall

Tension rose dangerously high in Berlin last week when the Communists held a mass demonstration outside the City Assembly, seeking to impose mob rule upon the elected Government. This body has a strong anti-Communist majority. The Communist demonstration mustered about 4,000 people, and its leaders actually entered the City Assembly and took their seats in the empty chamber, where they held an impromptu meeting. A deputation of ten Communists was received by Dr. Friedensburg, deputising for Frau Schroeder, and demanded fulfilment of the main points of the Socialist Unity Party's programme: unification of Berlin currency, and uniform distribution of food. A counter-demonstration in the British sector produced a crowd of 10,000

IN THE HEART OF BLOOMSBURY, A GARDENER SWEEPS ONE OF THE PATHS IN GORDON SQUARE: London's squares are gradually taking on their pre-war look. During the war most of them were neglected and many contained air-raid shelters and balloon-barrage units. Railings were torn down and paths ignored. The above picture shows the reconditioning which has taken place recently

THE ATTRACTIVE GARDEN OF RUSSELL SQUARE: Behind the tree, on the left, a mobile canteen can be seen which supplies light meals to visitors and which is in attendance every day. The square has been leased to Holborn Borough Council, who have made an excellent job of the garden. Concerts are given from a stage on Tuesdays at lunch-time and on Friday evenings

LUNCH-TIME IN RED LION SQUARE: This is another of the squares leased to Holborn Borough Council and which has been carefully tended. Lawns have been re-laid, flower-beds planted, and comfortable seats provided. In addition, Red Lion Square has had children's concerts every afternoon throughout the summer holidays. Holborn Council have also staged an open-air art exhibition in Bloomsbury Square, which followed the outstandingly successful sculpture exhibition in Battersea Park

LONDON'S GARDENS

The Revival of the Metropolitan Square

London's squares, ill-used during the war years, are gradually being restored to their former glory. In many cases, local councils have leased or purchased squares which once belonged to surrounding house-owners and have thrown them open to the public Holborn Borough Council has been particularly active in this respect, and some of its successful plans are illustrated on these pages. In addition, they have provided entertainment in the form of concerts and an open-air art exhibition. St. Pancras Council has turned its attention to bombed sites as well as squares, and several have been planted with flower-beds and laid out with crazy-paving. Iron railings are replaced by wooden fencing, although it is note-worthy that, in some cases, fences have been disposed of altogether. In the west of London many squares remain the property of garden ratepayers and residents, and the gardens vary. But there is much to support the theory that the square is still the finest form of town dwelling

LOOKING TOWARDS VICTORIA STATION FROM GROSVENOR GARDENS WITH THE FOCH MEMORIAL IN THE CENTRE BACKGROUND : Last April, Mr. Stanley Eyre wrote to "The Times" quoting a French veteran who, when he was shown the statue of Marshal Foch, remarked : "May I and my comrades be allowed to contribute a few francs to help clear the plot around our beloved general?" The plot was Grosvenor Gardens, and a sorry spectacle of bare earth and rubble. Now, Westminster City Council have taken the matter in hand, wooden fencing has been erected and landscape gardeners employed to produce the very pleasant spectacle pictured above. Facing, as it does, one of the main exits from Victoria Station it is one of the first impressions of London on many of our visitors

A GARDEN OF REST IN ST. GILES'S CHURCHYARD : Another highly successful scheme of Holborn Borough Council is this charming garden, with its well-kept flower-beds, within a few hundred yards of the noise and activity of busy Charing Cross Road and St. Giles's Circus

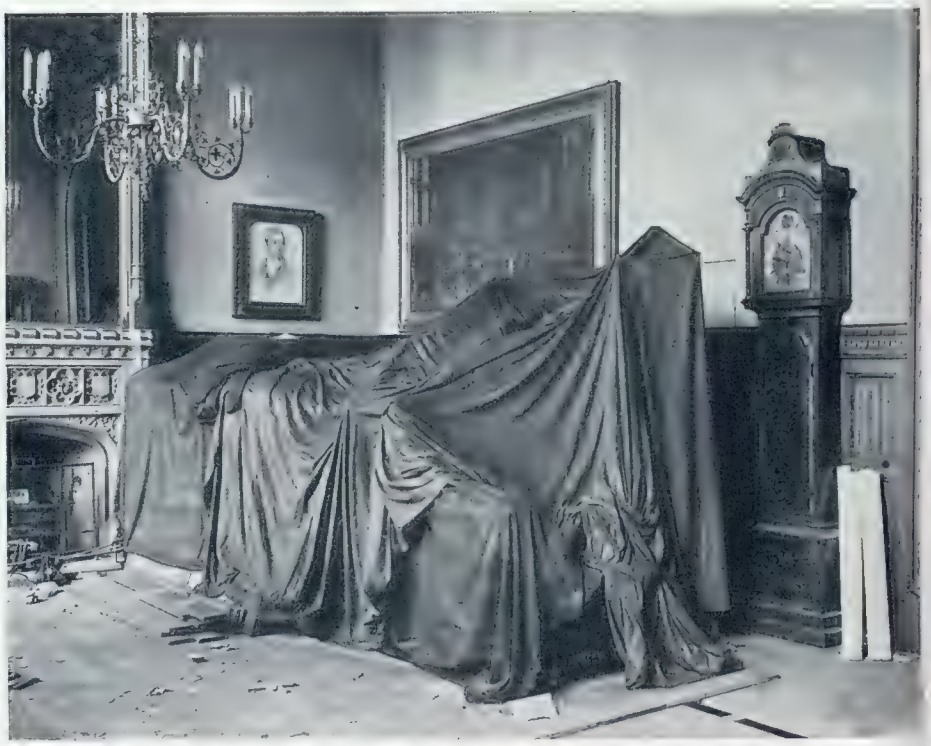
IN POPULOUS NORTH-WEST LONDON : The well-laid-out garden in Camden Crescent is proving a boon to local parents. There are no railings, but a low wall surrounds the garden. Most of the children keep to the crazy-paved paths. On the left can be seen an attractive rock garden, the central feature of the crescent

ALL HAS BEEN BUSTLE IN OLD PALACE YARD: Pneumatic drills have been tearing up the roadway, concrete mixers are at work providing the new road surface, and scaffolding goes up round the fabric of St. Stephen's Porch. Through this scaffolding will pass an alleyway providing protection when work starts on repairing the blitz-damaged stone overhead. At the same time the scaffolding round the equestrian figure of Richard Coeur de Lion has been removed, revealing a new sword in the hand of the great Crusader, taking the place of the sword that was bent, but not broken, by a bomb fragment. Westminster Hall, which lies beyond St. Stephen's Porch, is part of the ancient Palace of Westminster, founded by the Anglo-Saxon Kings. Work on the restoration of this celebrated Hall and its hammer-beam roof is also now in progress

MUCH ADO AT WESTMINSTER

The Progress of Reconstruction in the Precincts of the Palace

ST. STEPHEN'S PORCH SHROUDED IN STEEL: Men engaged in erecting the elaborate network of scaffolding prior to starting work on the repair of the stone baulking and the window which stands at the south end of Westminster Hall in Old Palace Yard



WHILE PARLIAMENT WAS IN RECESS AND THE PREMIER WAS AWAY ON HIS IRISH HOLIDAY: Sheets protecting the furniture from dirt and dust in Mr. Attlee's room in the Houses of Parliament where he transacts much daily business. The floorboards have been raised in some places to allow of a complete overhaul of the heating system

LIKE THE CRAFTSMEN OF OLD—EXPERT CARPENTERS AND JOINERS WORKING WITHIN A COMPOUND IN WESTMINSTER HALL WHERE THEY ARE REPAIRING THE BLITZED ROOF: Westminster Hall is one of the finest buildings of its kind in the world. Founded by William Rufus in 1097, it was partly rebuilt by Richard II. The Coronation feasts were for centuries held in the Great Hall, and it was there that Charles I was condemned to death and Cromwell, sceptre in one hand and Bible in the other, was saluted as Lord Protector. The Great Hall is 300 ft. long, 70 ft. wide and 100 ft. high, with plain walls of stone and without columns or obstructions to interrupt the view. The walls are original Norman, and were refaced in the fourteenth century. The roof is of carved oak, richly ornamented with heraldic designs. The Hall was badly damaged during the war, and the work of restoring the charred oak is now proceeding. The real English oak used comes from the estate at Wadhurst, in Sussex, from whence came a very considerable proportion of the timber used in 1395

REPLACING SALVAGED WESTMORLAND SLATES ON THE ROOF OF PARLIAMENT: During the war the slates were much damaged, not so much by bomb splinters as by the rain of anti-aircraft fragments which fell on the roof when attacks were in progress. A considerable number of fire-bombs also fell on the roof

WHERE MR. CHURCHILL WORKS WHEN PARLIAMENT IS IN SESSION: This room is allotted to the Leader of the Opposition (now an official salaried position in the House) and, like the Prime Minister's room, it is being put in order for the coming winter

AT THE JUNCTION OF THE MAIN ARCH RIB AND TRUSSED PURLIN: Men at work on the great timbers in the roof of Westminster Hall

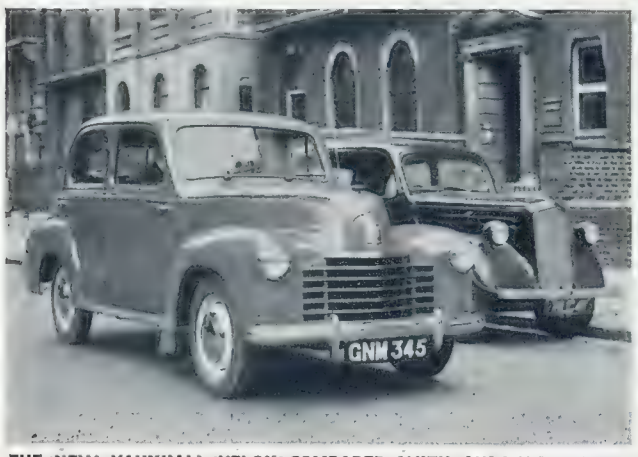
A SURVEY OF THE HOME NEWS IN PICTURES

UNITED STATES MILITARY SUPPLIES KEEP POURING INTO BRITAIN : A lorry being unloaded at Liverpool Docks from the American transport "PVT Joe E. Mann," which brought equipment for the United States centralised repair and maintenance base at Burtonwood, Lancs. At Burtonwood C54 aircraft taking part in the Berlin air-lift will receive their routine maintenance, and the base will also deal with the B29's engaged in special training flights in the United Kingdom. On September 1, 2,500 maintenance men were due to leave the United States, many of them destined for the Burtonwood Camp

GLASGOW BELONGS TO THEM : American airmen who landed recently in Scotland seen with their escorts in one of the city's main shopping thoroughfares. During the war the Americans, in common with the Australians and New Zealanders, took an enormous liking to Glasgow, finding the North British hospitality very much to their taste. At nearby Helensburgh there was a large American base, and Glasgow became a favourite place for short leaves

A MOTOR TORPEDO BOAT PAYS A SUMMER RECRUITING VISIT TO THE THAMES : Londoners inspecting the M.T.B. 5008 after she had made fast at Westminster Pier. The recruiting is for the Sea Cadet force, and a party of Sea Cadets journeyed from Dover in the vessel and up the tideway to London. The 5008 belongs to the modified Fairmile "D" type. She has a displacement of 120 tons and an overall length of 115 ft. The armament includes two 21-in. torpedo tubes

THE HAND THAT GUIDES THE TRAFFIC IN THE STRAND : Once the duty policeman operating the red and green lights at the Wellington Street, Aldwych, intersection sat in a tarpaulin-covered control-box. Now he has a new box with a seat, glass windows and every modern comfort. It is understood that Westminster City Council are calling for tenders for the provision of vehicle-operated signals. These would be of a complicated character, as cross-traffic is very considerable

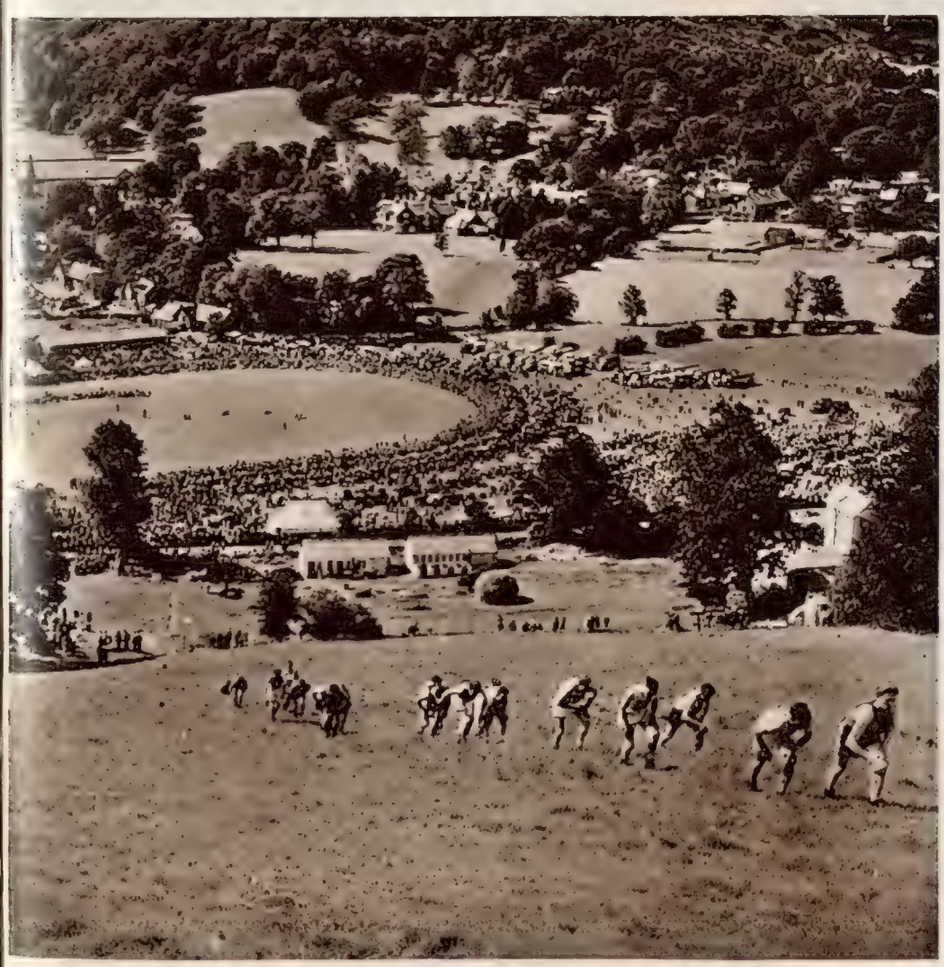


THE NEW VAUXHALL VELOX COMPARED WITH AN 8-H.P. FORD : This 2½-litre 6-cylinder car makes its bow in company with the Wyvern, a 4-cylinder model. The new cars have already been sent to distributors and dealers

A PLEASANT SURPRISE FOR THE MOTORING WORLD : The new Vauxhall Velox 6-cylinder 18-h.p. 4-door saloon, whose introduction, together with that of the Vauxhall Wyvern 12-h.p. model, has just been announced. Modern styling, with horizontal radiator grilles and streamlined extensions to front and rear wings, are features of both models, production of which is aimed primarily at the export market. The Velox is priced at £430, plus purchase tax, £30 cheaper than the previous 14-h.p. Vauxhall. In making the announcement at a Luton Press Conference, Sir Charles Bartlett, stated that his Company's new models were purposely low-priced in order to attract the foreign buyer. The Velox will cruise at 60-65 miles per hour, with a top speed of 75 m.p.h. Flexibility is such that the car will run at walking pace while in top gear, and in bottom gear will accelerate from 10 m.p.h. to 30 m.p.h. in eight seconds. Its petrol consumption is estimated at 25 to 28 miles per gallon, and its all-round performance is claimed to bear favourable comparison with that of the modern American car

WHERE THERE'S A MILL THERE'S A WAY! The celebrated old mill at Upminster Hill, Essex, will soon be working again. Repair work has already been done under the direction of Mr. H. Stone, a millwright, and a team of art students from the South-East Essex Technical College, who have been spending their holidays assisting in the work. They have gone over every inch of the mill, to discover its condition for themselves. A committee has been formed to administer the mill

AN UNUSUAL VISITOR TO LONDON: The Soviet ice-breaker "Lazar Kaganovitch," a vessel with a very unusual bow formation, being overhauled in dry dock at the Royal Albert Docks. For some time past she has been in a lay-by berth in the South-West India Dock, and there has been a considerable air of mystery about her long-continued stay. A drawing of the *Lazar Kaganovitch* appeared in THE SPHERE of April 24 last



TOILING UP THE SLOPES OF THE BUTTER CRAGS—THE START OF THE JUNIOR GUIDES RACE AT THE ANNUAL GRASMERE SPORTS: The competitors, already 100 ft. or so above the vast arena, at the commencement of their 15-minute ordeal. When they reach the summit of the celebrated Butter Crags they turn at the marker-point and career down to the winning-post within the arena. This year's winner was last year's runner-up. In addition to the senior and junior guides races, the sports included the usual wrestling bouts, while the hound and puppy trails were also a great attraction. Among the vast throng which packed the area was Mr. John Sewell, of Keswick, who saw his first Grasmere sports in 1873, when he was nine

THEY CAN'T STAY AND THEY MUST NOT LEAVE: Finnish refugees aboard their small craft in Lowestoft Harbour, where they have been stranded for the past three weeks. They have been ordered by the Board of Trade to remain at Lowestoft until they have proper life-saving equipment and a crew qualified to take their cargo-boat to its destination—South America. On the other hand, immigration authorities are anxious to have them leave as soon as possible and refuse permission to land. Until their future is decided, the Finns are living on the generosity of Lowestoft townspeople and holiday-makers, who have contributed food and fuel oil for the ocean trip

REPAIRS ON THE ESPLANADE DES INVALIDES: Men engaged in replacing worn paving-stones and balustrading during August repairs which are taking place throughout Central Paris, the municipality taking advantage of the absence on holiday of tens of thousands of citizens. Paris, to an even greater degree than London, is always very empty in August, partly because temperatures are often high and the heat can be unendurable. This year foreign tourists who are visiting France are tending to miss out Paris, or to make the briefest of stays, because prices are high. In the background of this picture is the celebrated dome of the Invalides, the old soldiers' home founded by Louis XIV, and now devoted to many purposes of a military nature. In the Church of the Invalides is the tomb of Napoleon I

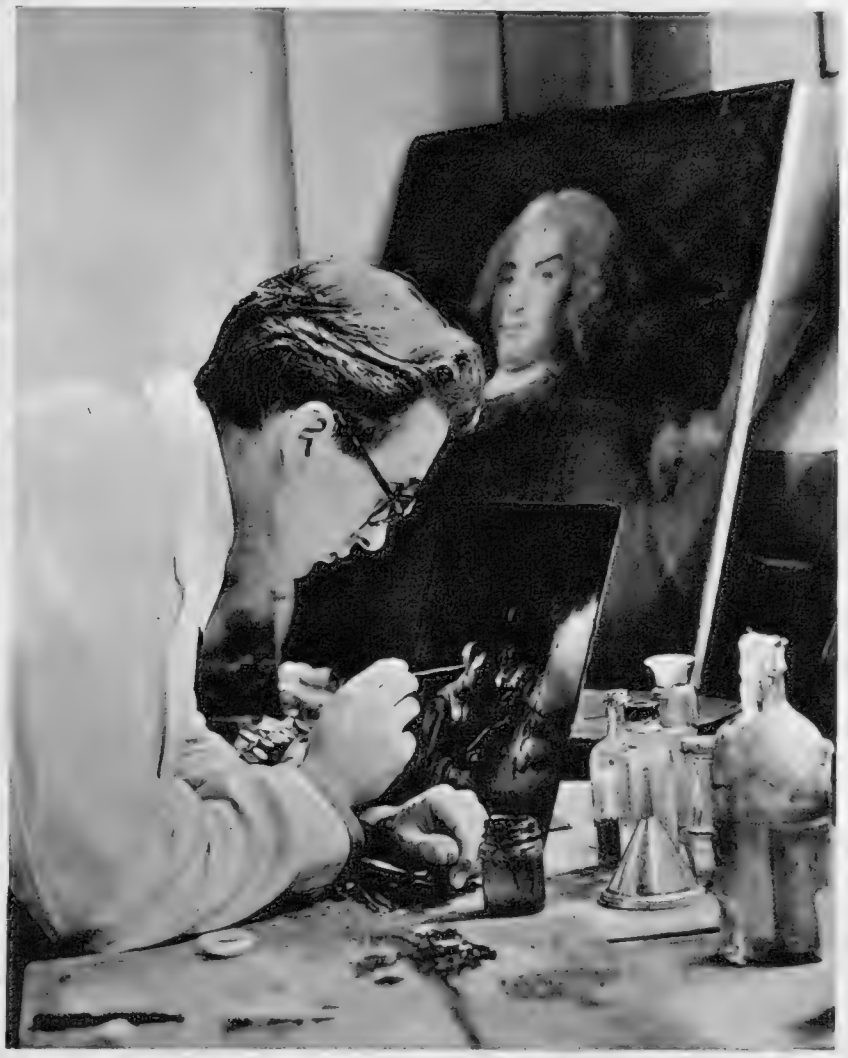
PARIS: THE DESERTED CAPITAL

With Her Citizens Away in Tens of Thousands the Municipality Undertakes Large-scale Repairs

ROAD REPAIRS IN THE RUE DE RIVOLI: A section of the highway under reconstruction near the Rue de l'Echelle. In the busy intersections of the First Arrondissement such repairs are hardly possible at any other time

IN THE BOULEVARD DES ITALIENS AND AVENUE DE L'OPERA—TWO MORE IMPRESSIONS OF THE DESERTED CAPITAL: Everywhere the roads are up and the jostling crowds are nowhere to be seen. Saturday mornings are particularly quiet in central Paris in August, and woe betide the unwitting tourist who seeks to cash traveller cheques in a city of closed banks. Out in Montparnasse and on the famed heights of Montmartre a little more gaiety prevails

RESTORING A MASTERPIECE OF THE ITALIAN-VENETIAN SCHOOL: Mr. Henry McLean mixing dry powdered colours when preparing to start work on the cleaning and restoration of a Bassano canvas which is seen on the easel behind him. Mr. McLean, who is twenty-one years of age and a graduate of Glasgow School of Art, is in charge of the conservation and the cleaning of all pictures in the Kelvingrove Art Galleries, Glasgow



RE-TOUCHING THE DIM OUTLINES OF FEATURES REVEALED BY THE CLEANING: Mr. Henry McLean, of the Kelvingrove Art Galleries, Glasgow, at work on a painting by Frans van Mieris, after carrying out cleaning operations. Mr. McLean starts by unframing his picture and placing it upon an easel. He then dips a piece of cotton-wool into a dish of acetone-turpentine solution and gently swabs the picture's surface. Soon the brilliance of the artist's original colouring is revealed and another treasure is on its way back to its pristine splendour. Every piece of cotton-wool used to clean a picture is packed into a cellophane bag, labelled, and filed for reference. The "evidence" is thus retained to prove that no harm has been done

THE WAY OF THE ARTIST

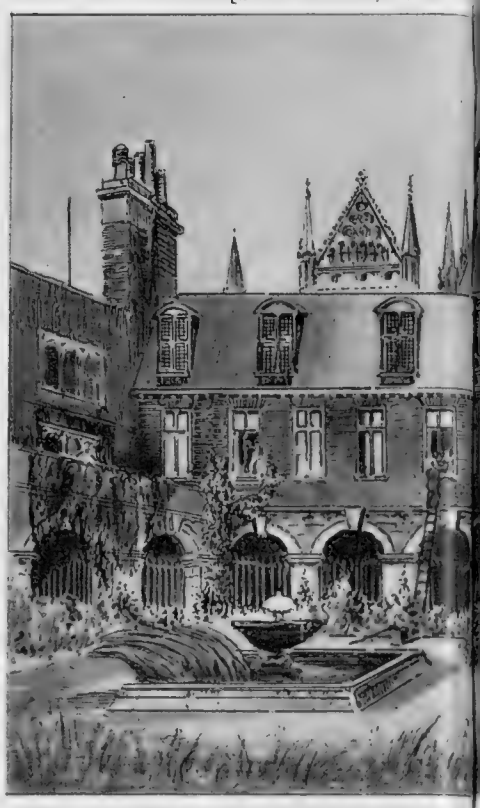
The Art Restorer, the Punch and Judy Maker, and the Master Saddler

PUNCH AND JUDY IN THE MAKING: Mr. Wal Kent, a veteran Kent entertainer, who lives at Brunswick Road, Gravesend, is one of the few men in the country to-day who makes his living mainly by making sets of dolls for the famous Punch and Judy showmen. Mr. Kent is sixty-eight years of age, and has spent a quarter of a century "on the boards," most of the time as a double act with his wife, who still partners him in making clothes for the dolls. Mr. Kent finds the shortage of wood a handicap, but there is a steady demand for the dolls all over the country. It takes him a day to carve out the head of "Punch," and there are heads and feet of nine other "people" to be made as well

THE ART OF JOHN MERTON: Suddenly prominent in the world of art by reason of his life-sized portrait in triplicate of Mrs. Daphne Wall, which appeared in the 1948 Royal Academy, is artist John Merton, who lives in an old manor house on the banks of the Wiltshire Avon. He paints in egg tempera—a medium first used on the wall paintings of ancient Egypt. Becoming one of the biggest draws of the recent exhibition, owing to the controversy it caused, his *Three in One* picture took him 1,200 hours to paint. Merton works in an eighteenth-century barn which he has converted into a studio, and his tidy surroundings, and neatness, bear little relation to the traditional conception of an artist

THE ART OF DOUGLAS SHELLEY: The youngest working saddler in the Eastern Counties—he is thirty-four—putting the finishing touches to a set of farm harness ordered by an Essex landowner. Mr. Shelley plies his trade in the old shop at Witham, Essex, where he was apprenticed twenty-two years ago. At this season, Mr. Shelley is in constant demand by local farmers, who rely on his deft hands to repair binder canvases when they break in the harvest-field. Mr. Shelley leaves other work to help in this way with the vitally important task of gathering in the harvest of 1948

RESTORING THE WREN ADDITION TO WESTMINSTER SCHOOL: In this drawing work is shown in progress on the bomb-damaged building, which lies within the Abbey precinct wall, flanking one side of the Monks' garden and the school quadrangle. The work of restoration is proving a big task. On the left is Ashburnham House, which was purchased by Westminster School in 1868 for £4,000. This building derived its name from the Ashburnham family, William Ashburnham, whose brother Jack was the faithful friend of Charles I, having been granted a lease in 1662. Ashburnham House is believed to have been designed by Inigo Jones



RESTORING WESTMINSTER: DEVELOPING CHELSEA

Historic, War-damaged Areas are in the News

(Drawings by Percy Horne)

Restoration of war damage in Westminster has gone ahead rapidly. The adjoining riverside borough of Chelsea has been less fortunate, but a major operation is now planned, and it is hoped that Chelsea's West End, a slum with few counterparts in West London, will receive the attention it deserves. Replanning this half-blitzed area involves, however, a certain threat to historic residences in Cheyne Walk, and it will be interesting to see how these, especially Turner's cottage, are incorporated in the general plan. In Milman's Street, between Cheyne Walk and the King's Road, work will take place on the site of More's house and garden. The twenty-seven two-storey houses suggested for the Embankment, some of them with top floors as studios for artists, will undoubtedly alter the present appearance of this end of Chelsea, and from some quarters criticism can be expected

THE SITE OF ST. THOMAS MORE'S HOME IN BOMB-BATTERED WESTERN CHELSEA: An artist's impression of the Milman's Street area which will be involved in the rebuilding programme now being considered by Chelsea Council. Over the wall in the background is the Moravian burial-ground, a hauntingly peaceful spot in the midst of a sadly dilapidated area. The burial-ground, which is not open to the public, dates from the days of Count Nicholas von Zinzendorf, who invited members of the "Unitas Fratrum" to settle on his Chelsea estate after their expulsion from Bohemia and Moravia in the first half of the eighteenth century. Within the burial-ground have been found traces of the foundations of More's residence

On right—**NO. 119, CHEYNE WALK, THE CHELSEA HOME OF J. M. W. TURNER, AS IT WAS BEFORE IT SUFFERED BOMB DAMAGE:** To observe the sunsets the artist used to go on the roof, hence the protective railing. To-day the house is half-ruined, and, as it lies within the area of the West Chelsea Development Scheme, there is a possibility that it might be difficult to incorporate it in any proposed lay-out. It is understood, however, that the Chelsea Housing Committee has asked for an estimate of the cost of acquiring and rebuilding the premises. It was in his later days that Turner came to live in Chelsea, hiding his identity under the name of Mr. Booth—a name he borrowed from his landlady

THE GRACEFUL SWEEP OF THE THAMES FRO DEVELOPMENT SCHEME: The future of thi plan to provide 800 homes for 3,100 people slums, and behind the attractive riverfron

THE RESTORATION OF THE LITTLE CLOISTERS AT WESTMINSTER ABBEY: This picturesque courtyard of the ancient infirmary of the Abbey, to which the monks retired when too old to fulfil their duties, has also been receiving attention of late following the neglect and damage of the war years. The chief work here has been the restoration of the Canons' residences on the north side of this delightful cloister, which at the moment is gay with Autumn flowers. The seventeenth-century superstructure of the residences rests on the fourteenth-century cloister arcading

OASIS IN A WILDERNESS: The section of the Ministry of Agriculture in St. Andrew's Place, Regent's Park, London, is a short avenue of ten houses. No. 4 has the best-kept garden, and naturally visitors to the Ministry always choose this as the place to call at. But they are wrong. The Ministry have seven of the ten houses, and these seven have gardens which are among the worst-kept in London. Grass grows anywhere, small trees shoot up where they shouldn't, and weeds are rampant. The garden at No. 4 (seen in the centre of this picture) belongs to Mrs. Philip Bright, a London magistrate and daughter-in-law of the late John Bright. Her garden is an oasis in an avenue of neglect, but she finds it a hard fight to keep it so. Mrs. Bright, who has lived in St. Andrew's Place for forty-eight years, took the matter up with the Ministry of Works, and it appears that something is at last being done

On left—**TURNER'S COTTAGE AS IT IS TO-DAY: An impression of the Cheyne Walk frontage as it sweeps round towards Cremorne Road and the Lots Road Power Station. The blitzed cottage (third from left) may possibly be restored to provide accommodation for people engaged in artistic pursuits. The window directly under the railing opens into the room in which Turner died in the year 1851**

BATTERSEA BRIDGE TO CREMORNE ROAD—THE WEST END OF CHEYNE WALK, SO RICH IN LITERARY AND ARTISTIC ASSOCIATIONS, WHICH IS INVOLVED IN THE CHELSEA area, where Turner, Oscar Wilde, Whistler and Rossetti all lived, is now under discussion, but it is certain that in some form or other it will be involved in the in this heavily damaged part of Chelsea. Away to the left is Cremorne Road and the Lots Road Power Station, in the Stanley area of Chelsea, one of London's worst façade are many mean streets where bomb damage has been severe. Turner's cottage lies towards the left of the drawing, and near the centre is Lindsey House

SURPLUS STORES: A MONSTER DISPOSAL

Some Facets of a Smooth-working Organisation. By CHARLES GRAVES

EVERY day with the exception of Sundays, at least three different sales of surplus war stores are taking place in some part of Great Britain on behalf of the Ministry of Supply alone; and up to July 1, £525,000,000 has been realised from them. Of this sum, nearly £200,000,000-worth was sold overseas. In addition, the Admiralty, the Ministry of Works, the Ministry of Food and the Ministry of Transport have realised another £164,000,000 for the Treasury. All this compares very favourably with the £260,000,000 which was what the surplus war 'stores were sold for after World War I; particularly as it has been estimated for me that there is another £150,000,000-worth of goods still to be sold.

So far, there have been no major scandals about the disposal of surplus stores to compare with those after 1918. This is largely due to the 1946 policy that privileged individuals were not to be selected as monopolists to buy these surplus war stores. Sales were made as competitive as possible, except when there was some specially controlled scheme which affected clothing and textiles or other "couponable" goods. At the same time, the Treasury was naturally anxious to ensure that the disposal of the war stores was carried out as fast as possible.

At the start, motor-car manufacturers were given first option of buying back their own vehicles. When, however, their purchases were shown to be too slow, the vehicles were sold by auction. Many people will remember the two Great Missenden sales, the first of which brought in just under £1,000,000, and the second another £500,000. Altogether, £57,000,000 has been realised by the sale of vehicles, cycles, tyres and spares. The average price for a 10-h.p. Utility Hillman or Austin is £275; DUKWs for £150, and Weasels for £45. Queen Marys have dropped to £18, from £80, which is not surprising in view of their not conforming to the standard size of road vehicles. The highest figure reached for a vehicle was 3,600 guineas for a Bentley, the lowest being £5 for a light two-wheeled trailer. Jeeps go at about £125. By contrast, a ten-ton Diesel lorry will fetch £2,600. The Ministry of Supply still has Goering's car for sale. This is a 140-h.p. bullet-proof Mercedes weighing 5¼ tons. The only offer so far has been £50. In the meantime, it has earned £25,000 for charitable organisations like the S.S.A.F.A.

At the moment, the stock of surplus vehicles is 13,500, and they are still coming in at the rate of 300 or 400 a month from the Services. Over 400,000 have been sold and, of the original thirty-nine sites where vehicles were dumped and sold, only four are left—Mount Farm, near Dorchester, where twelve sales have brought in £3,000,000; Byram Hall, near Nottingley; Elstow, near Bedford; and Edinburgh. The Great Missenden sales proved once and for all that auctioning them off, good, bad and indifferent, was the best way of disposing of the vehicles at competitive prices, instead of selling them in bulk at contract rates. Foreign Governments, including the Argentine, and U.N.R.R.A., have been big buyers. U.N.R.R.A. bought 11,000 to move Displaced Persons. So much for motor vehicles.

Other surplus war stores have included hundreds of thousands of pounds-worth of cosmetics, originally intended for W.A.C.s and W.A.V.s; thousands of corn-cob pipes for negro troops; enough snuff to last the whole British population for twenty-five years; 18,000,000 American prophylactics; £30,000-worth of American tobacco; innumerable packs of playing cards, which had to go to Army institutes, because the Customs and Excise authorities would not allow them to be sold through the ordinary trade channels. Vast quantities of medical stores have been given to the nationalised hospitals.

American war stores were the subject of many newspaper stories a year or so ago. Tales were told of wholesale pilfering, and many of these were true when the goods were still at deserted Army or Air Force camps which had no proper protection from thieves. Many of these were officially surrounded with barbed wire, but only two or three pairs of wire cutters were needed for whole armies of pilferers to break into the stores and seize what they liked. Later on, the Ministry of Supply took over, and police and savage dogs acted as suitable deterrents. Apart from this, the police were busy seeing that crooked purchasers did not succeed in surreptitiously altering individual lot numbers after inspection so that they could cheat the auctioneer. It was also necessary for the police to keep careful watch on what purchasers took away when they came to remove the goods they had bought. On one occasion at Newbury, police protection from a gang of spivs had to be given to a man who was bidding for a large supply of buckets and spades.

It is not surprising that various half-hearted attempts were made by unscrupulous buyers to form a ring and buy goods more cheaply than would be normal but, time and again, members of the rings fell out with each other and prices were maintained. In order to prevent machine tools falling into the hands of middlemen and black marketeers, the Ministry of Supply did its best to sell them direct to essential factories to aid production. Altogether, £50,000,000-worth of machine tools were sold in this way. In some instances, such as paper and textiles, more was paid at the auctions than the goods originally cost. Naturally, this was the exception to the rule, the original cost of surplus war stores seldom bearing any relation to current peacetime prices. Indeed, the more specialised the equipment (and therefore the more expensive to make), the less likely it is to have any useful commercial purpose. Apart from that, some of the devices are still on the secret list, and have had to be broken down into their component parts before they could be sold. Naturally, all surplus war stores sold because they were obsolete, obsolescent or unserviceable, such as tanks, shells, guns, bombs and lethal weapons generally, have also had to be broken down in the ordnance factories before they could be sold. In the case of these articles, the same procedure has been observed—it is not what they cost, but what price can reasonably be secured for them which matters.

At an early stage, radio transmitters, which were selling like hot cakes, had to be taken out of the auctions and broken down, because the G.P.O. reported that so many radio amateurs were buzzing messages through the ether that ships' signals could scarcely get a look in.

As with machine tools for factories, so locomotives have been reserved for the railways, and tractors for builders and opencast mining operators. These are sold by tender to bona-fide users. Many of the railway engines had to be repaired in Brussels before being offered to the British Railways. But this was very much the exception to the rule of selling everything at purchaser's risk, leaving the purchaser to adapt what he had bought to his own use at his own cost.

It was also unusual for the Ministry of Supply to send an official to the United States zone of Germany to buy 100 tractors and transport them to England for sale. These tractors all had to have armed guards to prevent their injection pumps and other valuable accessories being stolen en route.

Mile upon mile of Bailey bridging and railway bridging have been sold to Greece and China to enable them to recover as quickly as possible from the devastation of war. As for Mulberry, already £450,000-worth of what must have been regarded by the public as a complete white elephant has been sold. Parts of it to-day are functioning usefully as pier-heads and jetties in places as far apart as West Africa, Iceland and Dagenham. And there is still more of it for sale.

In the case of Mulberry, there was no doubt as to its exact contents. Not so with many a crate left over by the American troops. A crate labelled "concrete mixer" was just as likely to contain a bacon-cutting machine as a couple of thousand dirty socks. One crate upon inspection proved to be a mere cubbyhole with two armchairs in which a couple of German prisoners of war were found smoking cigarettes off duty. Another dump which looked as though it weighed something like 500 tons turned out to have been placed over an air-raid shelter, and was therefore almost hollow.

Everything has been done to prevent auctions occurring on the same day in the same area, and so fast are they taking place that the staff which numbered 3,250 in January 1947 has now been cut to 1,200, and by next March will have been reduced to 500. In that month Mr. F. W. Jenkins, the Director General in charge of this gigantic task, hopes to have closed down all his foreign branches in Egypt, Singapore and Germany. In Germany, by the way, the guarding of the surplus war stores is sometimes tricky. Not only are there watchers to watch the pilferers, but watchers to watch the watchers, and further watchers to watch them.

There is still about £250,000-worth of Government dumps in Australia, but it is quite possible that in the next few days the Australian Government, acting for the Ministry of Supply, will make a flat bid for what remains, and thus clear it off the books.

Among the major items sold, in addition to the figures already given, are: clothing, textiles, medical stores and various household stores, £73,000,000; Royal Engineer stores and electrical stores, £37,000,000; aircraft and aero engines, radio, instruments, etc., £30,000,000; iron and steel, £27,000,000; non-ferrous metals, £28,000,000; miscellaneous, including £2,000,000-worth of watches and clocks, £33,000,000.

Individual members of the public may regret that, with the exception of bicycles, some of which were sold singly, the Ministry of Supply felt, quite rightly, that it was quite impossible to set up shops all over the country and go into the retail business. Speed was an essential part of the job, and therefore wholesale methods had to be adopted largely. By selling fast, miles of floor space and land have been returned to their rightful users, and thousands of watchmen, not to mention members of the staff of the Ministry of Supply, have been released for other work.

The Ministry has promised Sir Stafford Cripps that he may expect another £82,000,000 from their sales for this financial year. Thereafter the flood will diminish into a trickle of about £25,000,000 for 1949, and still less, of course, in 1950, when the goods offered at the auction sales will be down to the last dregs.

A SALE OF VEHICLES IN PROGRESS AT MOUNT FARM: The closely-packed buyers' benches as the auctioneer offers Lot 1070. Mount Farm, near Dorchester, Oxford, has witnessed the sale of vast quantities of Government surplus stores, twelve sales having brought in a total of £3,000,000

A BUYER TAKES AWAY HIS PURCHASES: A trailer loaded with one petrol tanker, one petrol tank trailer, and one 30-cwt. lorry, all purchased by one customer at a Government sale at Mount Farm. On top of them a jeep is being loaded by crane

MONKEYS AND SEA-HORSES

Some Cheerful Irrelevancies from the Zoos

ON BELLEVUE'S CORAL STRAND : Three Spanish sea-horses in the Bellevue Aquarium, Manchester, provide a study in the grotesque as they indulge in their own Grand National. One of them appears to have fallen by the way, another races for home, after dealing with the right angular canal turn, and a third, with infinite grace, is taking the last jump over the coral wall

BEREFT QUEEN WITH SON AND HEIR : Rastus, the King of the Rhesus monkeys, escaped from his quarters in the London Zoo over a fortnight ago and he had to be shot. His wife Rita, and his son pine for the fallen renegade, and the Zoo authorities have to contend with the trouble of quelling the disputes of the other monkeys over the vacant throne. Rita now spends her time gazing vacantly into space

CHIMPS ARE PUT THROUGH THEIR PACES AS POTENTIAL HUMORISTS : These four young chimpanzees, ranging in age from eighteen months to two years, are passing their first test in making the public laugh. A bucket, chair, broom-head and pan were tossed into their cage to get them used to handling mirth-provoking objects. Sally, safety trapped in the bucket, raged at Compo, creeping up with a broom with that "washday" look in his bright button eyes. Completely impartial, So-So watched from her chair. Last of the quartet, Susan, had an interesting cake-tin to investigate. Probably they will take part next year in the Chimps' Tea-party, at London Zoo

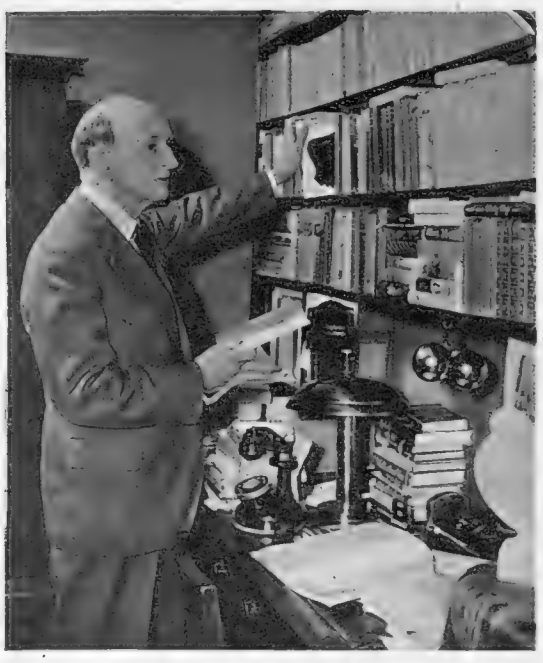
A WELCOME FOR "LA PETITE JEUNESSE" : M. Bullier, director of Vincennes Zoo, Paris, holding in his arms the little gorilla which was the most admired of all the arrivals in the Zoo ship "Bacala," which arrived recently at Bordeaux from the Cameroons. Outstanding among the passengers were a gorilla, fifty monkeys (assorted), lions, a buffalo, and a crocodile. Snakes were also much in evidence, but nobody welcomed them with open arms

The World of Books

PATER—PATTON—PEPYS—AND AGATE

Some Diverse Personalities Lend Colour to the Literary Scene; Richard Aldington's Appraisal of an Aesthete

WALTER PATER, that master stylist, whose impeccably brilliant prose was the result of a polishing and a repolishing that continued until his acutely critical ear was satisfied, was undoubtedly a great humanist; but somehow his sonorous sentences tend to lack reality and freshness the farther they diverge from simplicity, and thus wearying himself in the pursuit of vain perfection, as Edmund Gosse has said, he may weary the reader too. Richard Aldington, one of our most accomplished modern stylists, has edited WALTER PATER: SELECTED WORKS (William Heinemann. 21s.) and, in an admirable introduction, explains at some length the character of this shy



STUART GILBERT AT HOME: The friend of James Joyce, who helped in the French translation of "Ulysses," seen at his home on Ile Saint-Louis, in Paris. Gilbert has won himself a big reputation as a translator from the French, and his English renderings of works of Saint-Exupery, Malraux, Camus, Martin du Gard and Sartre are notable. Stuart was educated at Oxford and has spent part of his life in the East as a Sessions Judge

Fellow of Brasenose who never really shone as a literary celebrity in his own day, much as he desired to cut a dash, and whose aestheticism lacked the robust quality of that of his hedonistic contemporary Gauthier, with his passionate love of material life. What, then, is Pater's legacy to literature?

Mr. Aldington indicates that he remains a wonderful inspirer of young men, "a civilising influence over sensitive and studious youth," with his ideal of the "pursuit through life of the spirit of heavenly beauty." Those who re-read Pater's polished essays, notably the essay on Wordsworth, cannot fail to quicken to his lofty idealism, even though his overburdened sentences, with their too numerous parenthetical clauses, may tend to leave them at times a trifle breathless; while his essay on Winckelmann, Goethe's master, interpreter of the Hellenic spirit, and exponent of the classical tradition, reflects the unchanging mission of the humanist. In these days of uncertain, wavering standards, Pater has a very real contribution to make, and it would be an incautious critic who sought, in disparagement, to label as a drab Victorian this man of high purpose solely because his private life was so unspectacular, and because he had such a marked penchant for frequenting "the dullest houses in London." About Pater there are in the realm of ideas certain qualities that are ageless. Mr. Aldington has done well to remind us of that fact.

From Walter Pater, the contemplative, we pass to George Patton, the man of galvanic action. The late General Patton's aggressive, fighting qualities, qualities that came to the world's aid when they were most needed, stand out sharp and clear in every page of his racy, ruthless memoirs, WAR AS I KNEW IT (W. H. Allen. 18s.), as also does his highly colourful personality. On his own testimony, and Patton is never shy about recording his personal prowess, the reader will be expected to see in him a brilliant, intrepid executant, a mixture, shall we say, of the tactical genius of J. J. Jackson and the Prince of Ekmühl, with more than a dash of Marshal Ney's thrustful gallantry and the swashbuckling daring of Nathan Bedford Forrest. The remarkable thing is that this glorious self-assertion pushes upwards through the pages of what would at first sight appear to be a strictly factual account of Patton's part in the African, Sicilian, and North-West European campaigns, and even more remarkable is the fact that it does not offend. George Patton was a mighty thruster. His memoirs show how he was here, there, and everywhere, in the foremost tank of the foremost division, when he could get there, and, during a lull, getting among the troops, raising moral by his very ebullience, and into the hospitals where woe-betide the neurotics, the malingerers, and the sufferers from self-inflicted wounds. Not all that this two-gun General has to say will be taken without demur, but it is good to know that he had time to set his forceful impressions on record before his tragic end in a car accident towards the close of 1945.

Another colourful figure who is no longer in our midst, and whose intensity of activity had very much of the Patton quality, was James Agate. EGO 9 (Harrap. 18s.), the ninth and last volume of his wayward, discursive autobiography, now makes its appearance, mostly in the form of letters. Agate, strangely enough, intended this to be the last volume, and, seemingly, with some premonition of his death, said so in the concluding chapters not long before he died. Here we have the mixture, very much as before, as the critic describes the world that revolved around him, a world of theatrical first-nights, elegant dinners, prize fights, and hackney shows. Agate enjoyed life to the full and, like the good diarist he was, had the ability to pass on some of that enjoyment to his following of readers. *Ego* 9, and all the other *Egos* before it, is not only a diary, however, it is the safety-valve of a very active mind. What the critic could not say in his daily outpourings in the Press he put down in *Ego* for his own personal satisfaction. Hence its aggressive savour and, in turn, its readability.

Pepys' torrent of self-revelation, the diary upon which fame's spotlight settled, for two centuries cast into the shadows the memory of his public service. There was also the fact that the Whig historians of the eighteenth century were inclined to confer immortality only upon such Tories of the seventeenth century as were unmistakable villains; Judge Jeffreys, for example. Pepys, the Nestor of the Navy, had the makings of a hero, and so his deeds at the Admiralty were conveniently forgotten. Yet silently Pepys clamoured to be heard. Between the unfingered covers of hundreds of volumes in the Bodleian and in his library at Magdalene College were the materials which he had prepared to explain and justify his career. That brilliant Cambridge scholar Dr. J. R. Tanner, who devoted thirty years of his life to the championship of Pepys, the man "who had created the English Naval machine which ultimately gave his country the dominion of the seas," died with his work on the naval manuscripts unfinished. Sixteen years ago that task was taken up by Arthur Bryant, and the skill with which he completed it is found in his volumes *The Man in the Making*, *The Years of Peril*, and *The Saviour of the Navy*. These were all published in the '30's, and last year the first of the trilogy, dealing with the diary years, appeared in a new edition. This is now followed by the second edition of THE YEARS OF PERIL (Collins. 15s.), and right welcome it is. For the fourteen years covered by this volume the hitherto unknown material has far exceeded the known, the greater part of it coming from Pepys' unsorted papers, and it sheds a dramatic light on Pepys' part in the so-called Popish plot.

Of the Pepysian trilogy, *The Years of Peril* is undoubtedly the most dramatic, the most valuable to the student of history, and, but for Mr. Bryant, it would be hard indeed to associate this rising Admiralty servant, who was quietly laying the foundations upon which British sea power was to rest for generations, with the author of the diary,

THE C.I.G.S. WITH A HAPPY FAMILY: Some of the boys of the Farningham and Swanley Homes for Boys with their President, Field-Marshal the Viscount Montgomery of Alamein. A few years ago Field-Marshal Montgomery became the President of the Homes, and he takes a very keen interest in the welfare of the boys, who are being cared for under home-like conditions. Voluntary subscribers help the Homes to maintain and educate 300 orphan or homeless boys, and as soon as the houses destroyed by bombing during the war have been rebuilt, there will be accommodation for a further 100 boys. In addition to education, the boys are subsequently trained for a career and can leave the Homes as efficient craftsmen in the trade they have undertaken, among them printing, cabinet making, and leather working

"FAR FROM THE MADDING CROWD": Two of Douglas Snowdon's drawings for Clive Holland's new book "Thomas Hardy's Wessex Scene" (Longman's, Dorchester, Ltd. 8s. 6d.). *Left*—Hangman's Cottage, Dorchester, the Casterbridge of the Wessex novels. *Right*—The church at Beaminster, which Hardy called Emminster

the perpetrator of garrulous colloquialisms whose direct, often bawdy simplicity sometimes gave him the aspect of a disreputable old rake.

Paul Gauguin, in the eyes of his Danish wife Mette Gauguin, was a monstrous egotist. That his children had to be fed through the help of his wife's friends was a matter of complete indifference to him. He did not even want to be told of it. That is one side of the story. On the other side we have the great artist who deserted security in a French financial house for the life of a beachcomber in Tahiti, who put painting and his artistic ideal first, enduring the depths of poverty, the bitterest mental and physical torments as he followed his star. In PAUL GAUGUIN: LETTERS TO HIS WIFE AND FRIENDS (Saturn Press. 16s.), the conflict is presented just as it occupied the minds of the protagonists. It arouses pity for the artist and sympathy for his bereft wife, and some of the hitherto unpublished letters at least add measurably to our biographical knowledge. No one will read these letters with other than sadness, and it is strange to think that, despite all the envy, the calumny, the hate, and the pain, there should have emerged an art that blossomed gloriously.

Lin Yutang has chosen for his latest biography the life of Su Tungpo, a poet and master of prose who lived three hundred years before Chaucer, and under the title of THE GAY GENIUS (Heinemann. 15s.) traces the career of this great humanitarian who, in addition to his literary outpourings, was, we are told, a magistrate, an engineer, "a prowler in the moonlight and a wag." As background is the rich and gorgeous picture of eleventh-century China.

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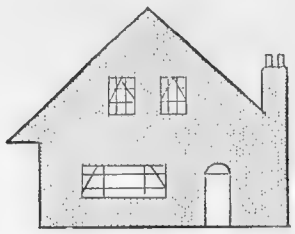

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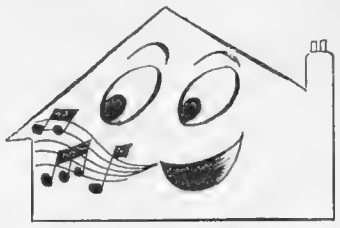

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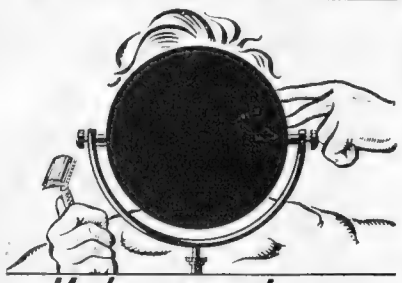

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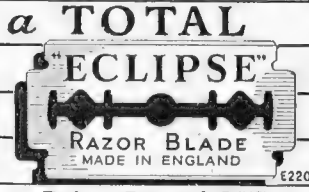

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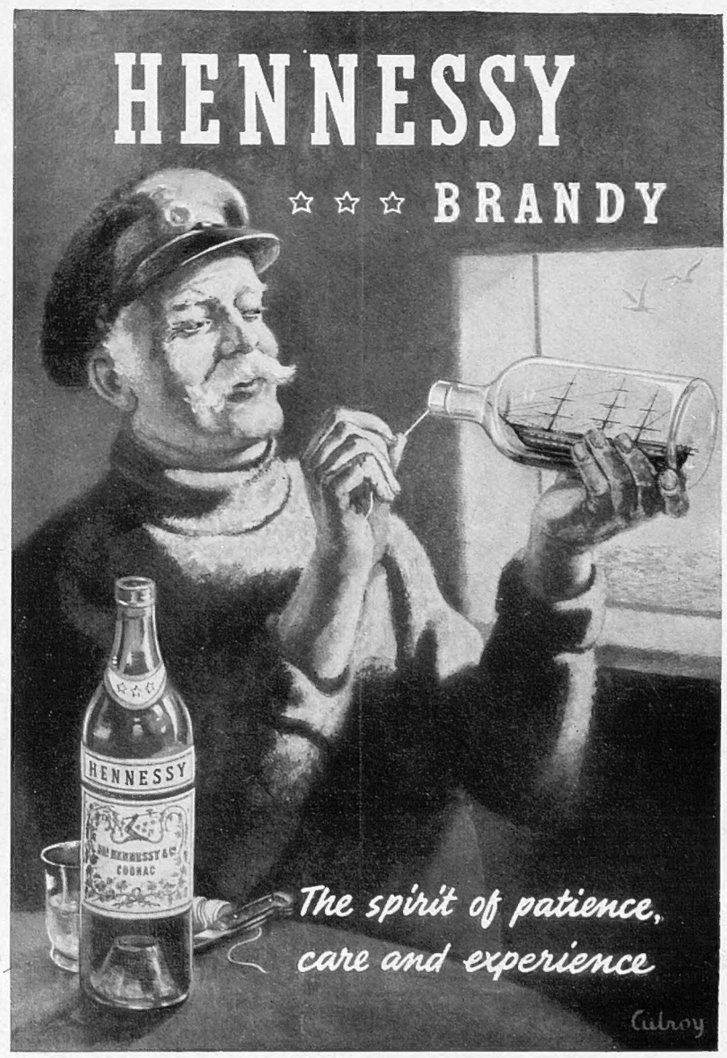

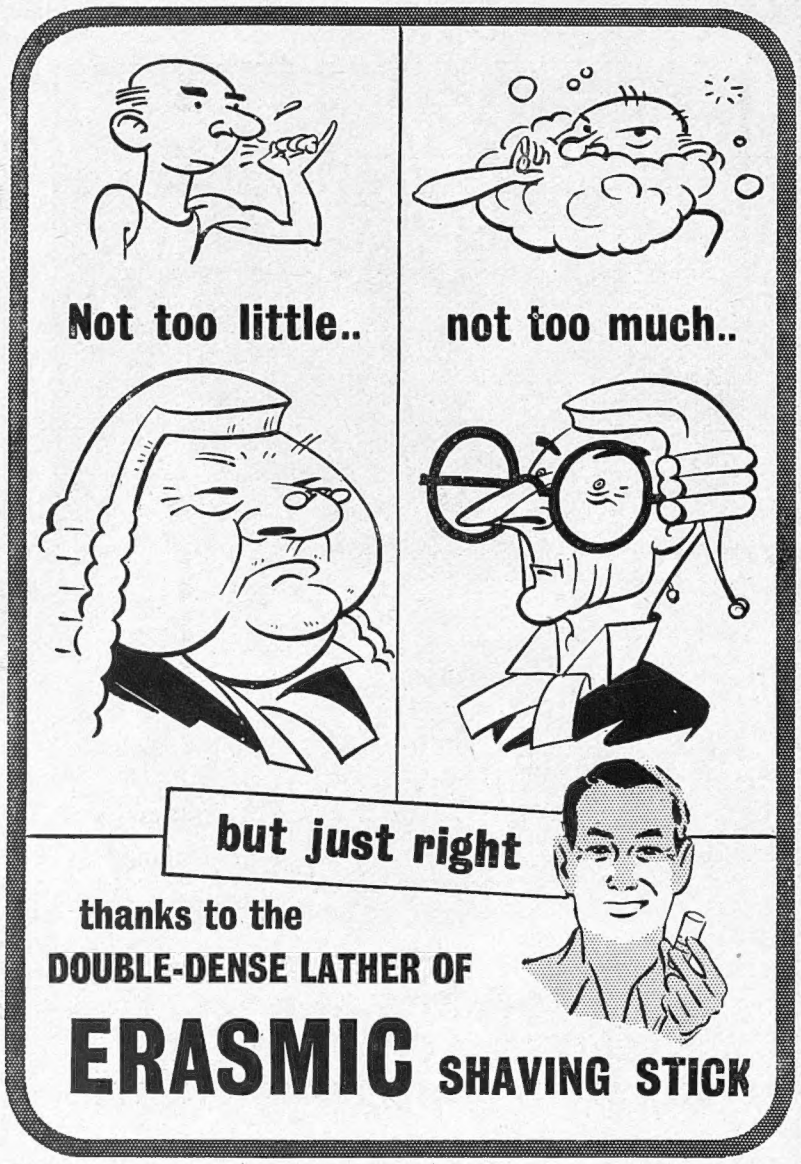

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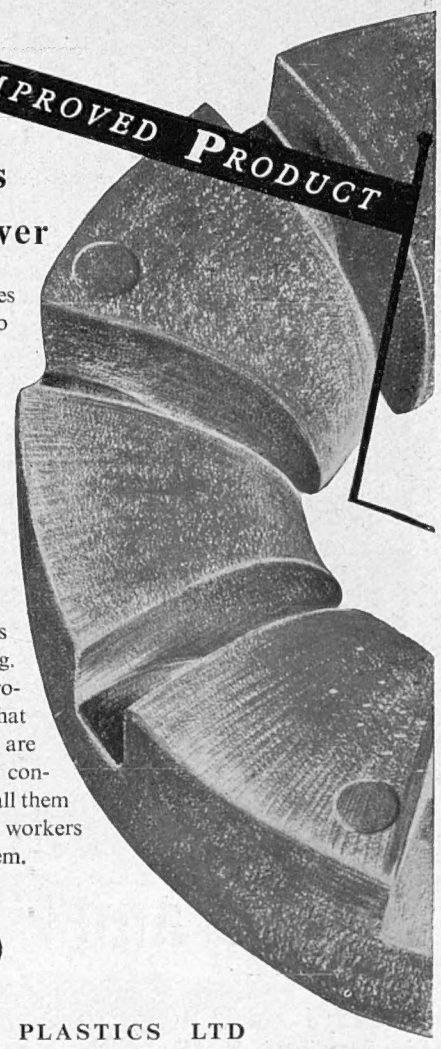

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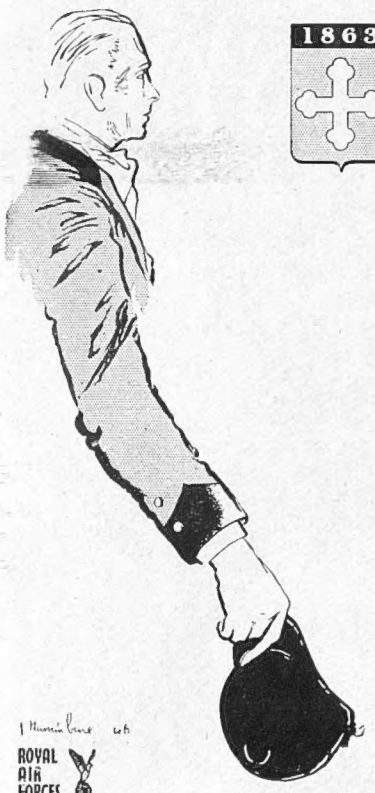

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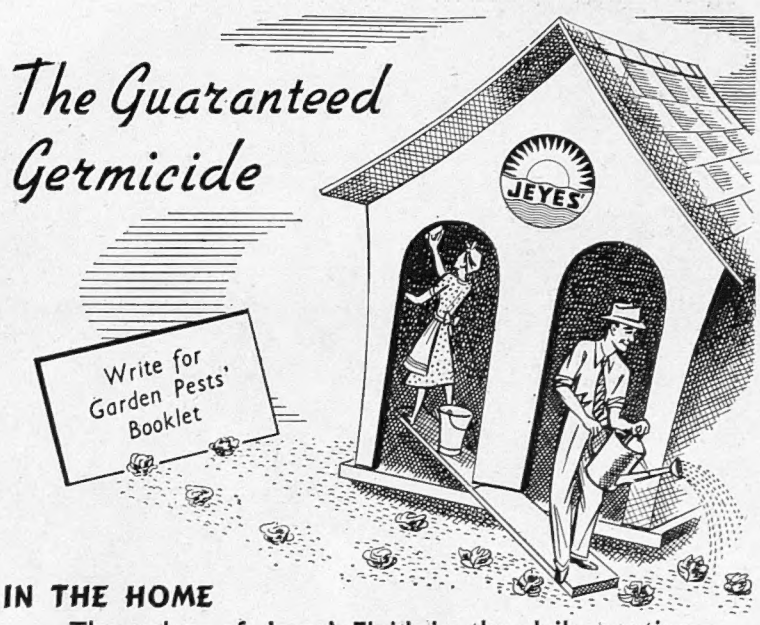

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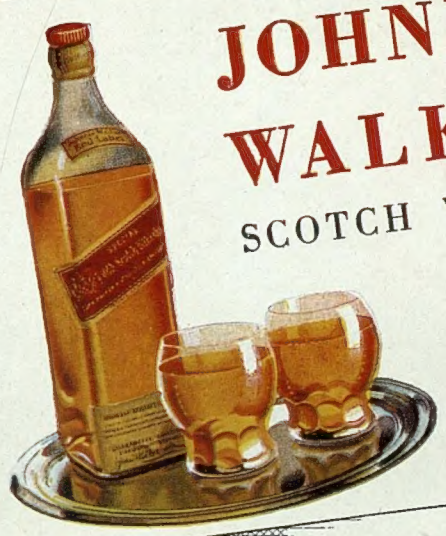

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